

MARVEL®

©1984 MARVEL COMICS GROUP



TM

60¢
96
NOV
02199

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™

FEATURING:
THE BLACK CAT,
THE KINGPIN,
THE ANSWER,
CLOAK & DAGGER,
SILVERMANE...



...AND WHAT THE
WELL-DRESSED
SPIDER-MAN
IS WEARING
THIS SEASON!

ALL IS
DARKNESS.

IT IS A DARKNESS UNLIKE
ANY MERE NIGHTTIME BLACK--
AS THICK AND PALPABLE AND
REAL AS ANY SUBSTANCE
THAT EXISTS IN THIS WORLD.

ONLY THIS DARKNESS IS
NOT OF THIS WORLD.

IT IS THE
DARKNESS THAT
IS CLOAK!

MINUTES AGO, AS HE WAS
STRUGGLING TO FREE HIS
COMPANION, DAGGER, FROM
THE GRASP OF SILVERMANE,
THE BEING CALLED THE
ANSWER SWOOPED DOWN
AND WRESTED HER AWAY!

HE HAD TO PURSUE THEM, BUT
WITHOUT DAGGER TO FEED
HIS DARKNESS, HE LACKED
THE POWER TO DO SO.

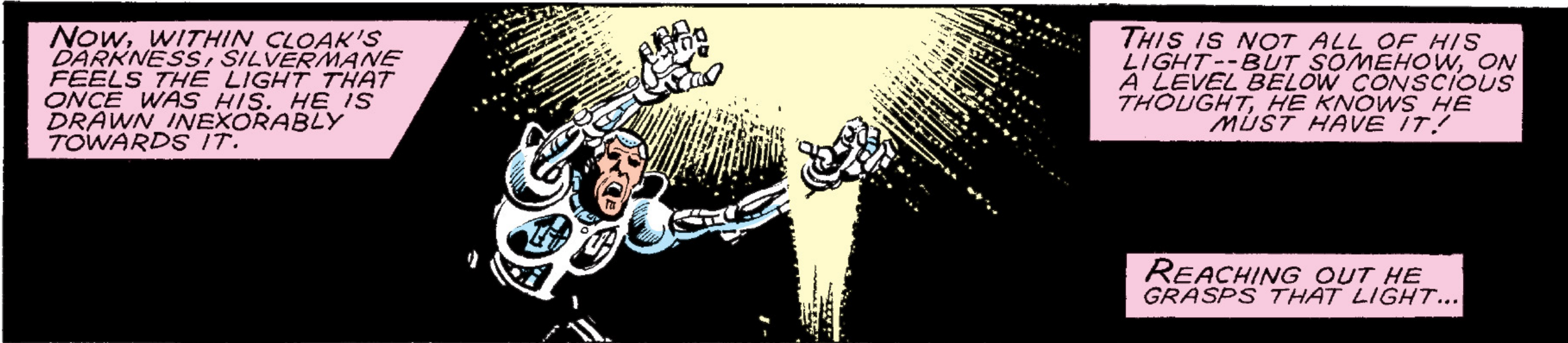
BUT BEFORE HE COULD USE
THE POWER OF HIS CAPE
TO TRANSPORT HIM INTO
THE DARK DIMENSION, THE
BIONIC FORM OF SILVER-
MANE, LURCHED FORWARD
INTO THE EBON FOLDS.

CLOAK HAD TO RESCUE
HER FOR, WITHOUT
DAGGER'S ABUNDANT
SUPPLY OF LIGHT TO
SUSTAIN HIM, HE WOULD
HAVE TO STEAL
THE LESS PLENTIFUL
LIGHT FROM THE SOULS
OF OTHERS.

HIS CAPE SWALLOWED THE
DRUG DEALERS WHOSE
SORDID BUSINESS HAD LURED
HIM HERE--SEEKING TO
USE SOME OF THEIR LIGHT
TO NOURISH HIMSELF.

FOR SILVERMANE TOO,
NEEDED DAGGER'S LIGHT, THE
LIGHT SHE HAD STOLEN
FROM HIM--THE LIGHT HE
SENSED WITHIN CLOAK.

SPIDER-MAN AND THE
BLACK CAT WERE LEFT
GAPING ON THE DOCKS!



NOW, WITHIN CLOAK'S DARKNESS, SILVERMANE FEELS THE LIGHT THAT ONCE WAS HIS. HE IS DRAWN INEXORABLY TOWARDS IT.

THIS IS NOT ALL OF HIS LIGHT--BUT SOMEHOW, ON A LEVEL BELOW CONSCIOUS THOUGHT, HE KNOWS HE MUST HAVE IT!

REACHING OUT HE GRASPS THAT LIGHT...

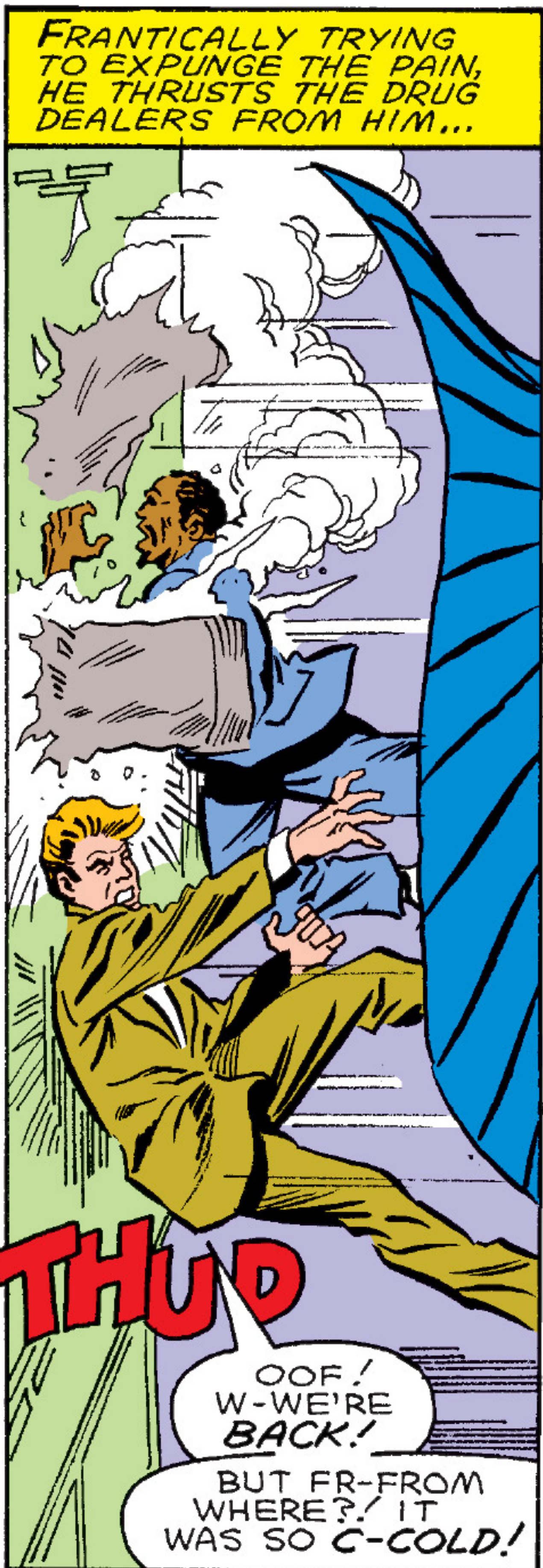


AAAARGGHHH!



THE PAIN--!
I HAVE NEVER KNOWN SUCH PAIN!

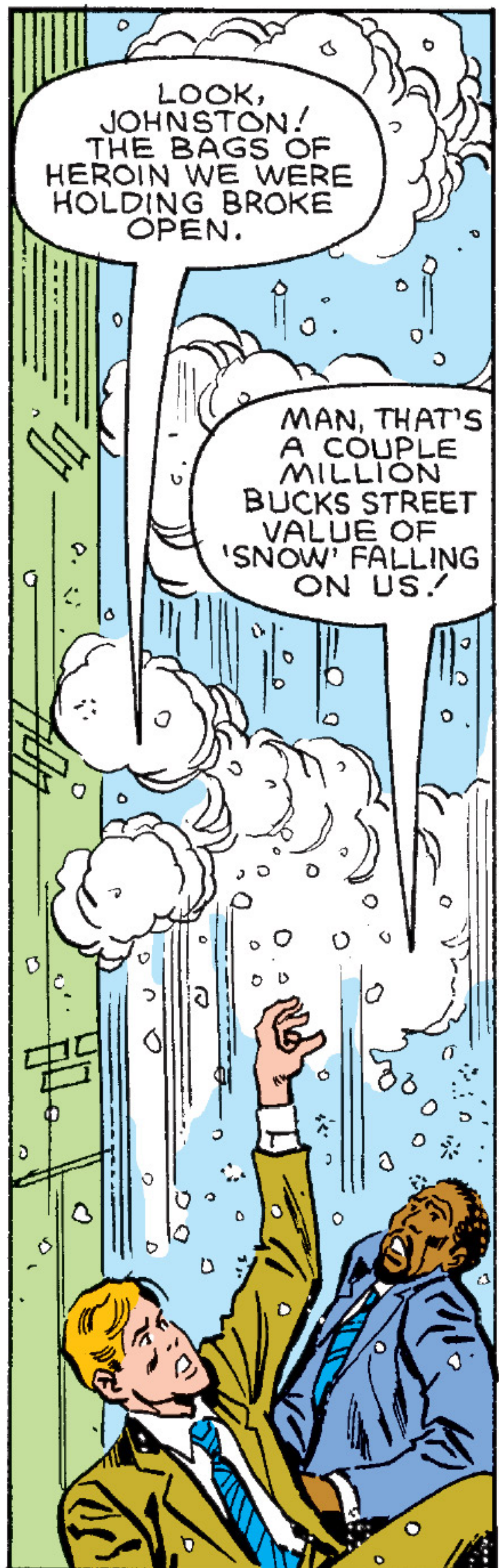
ABRUPTLY, CLOAK IS HURLED BACK FROM DARKNESS TO THE EVERYDAY WORLD.



FRANTICALLY TRYING TO EXPUNGE THE PAIN, HE THRUSTS THE DRUG DEALERS FROM HIM...

THUD

OOF!
W-WE'RE BACK!
BUT FR-FROM WHERE?! IT WAS SO C-COLD!



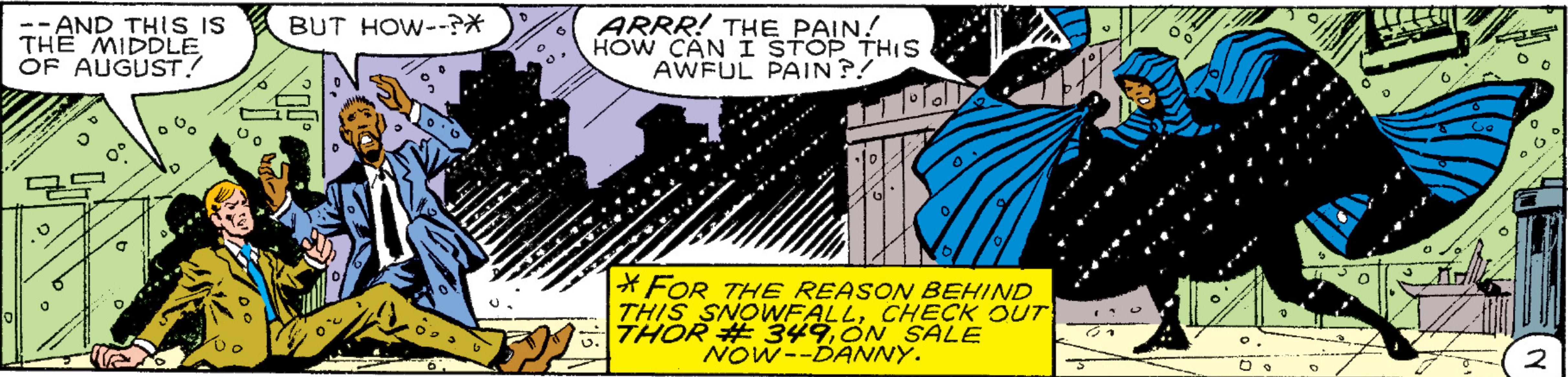
LOOK, JOHNSTON!
THE BAGS OF HEROIN WE WERE HOLDING BROKE OPEN.

MAN, THAT'S A COUPLE MILLION BUCKS STREET VALUE OF 'SNOW' FALLING ON US!



YEAH, BUT WHY IS IT STILL FALLING--THERE WASN'T *THAT* MUCH...

HEY--! IT--IT'S COLD! THAT'S *REAL* SNOW--



--AND THIS IS THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST!

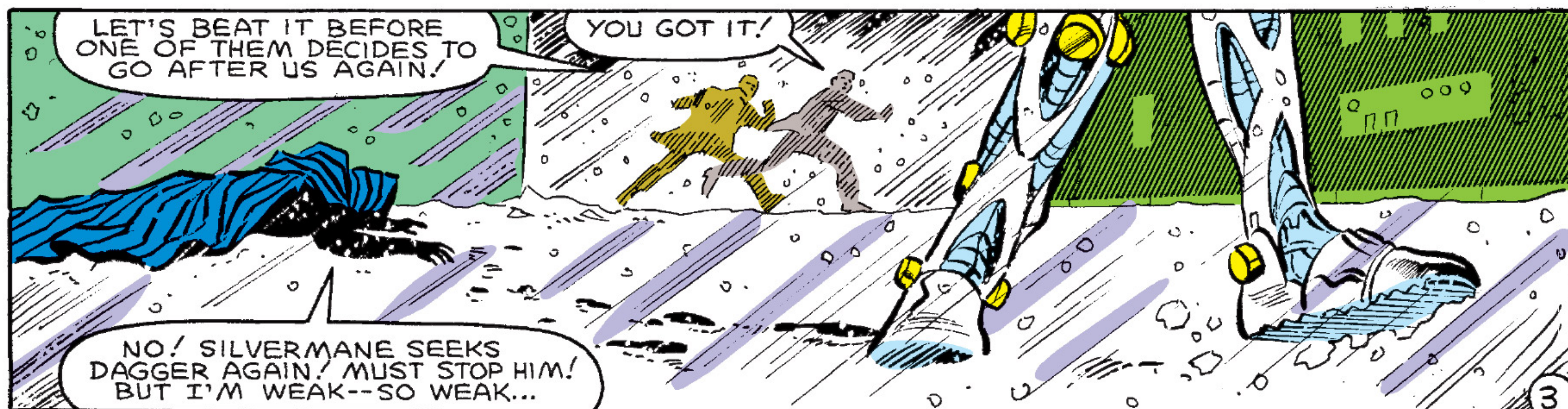
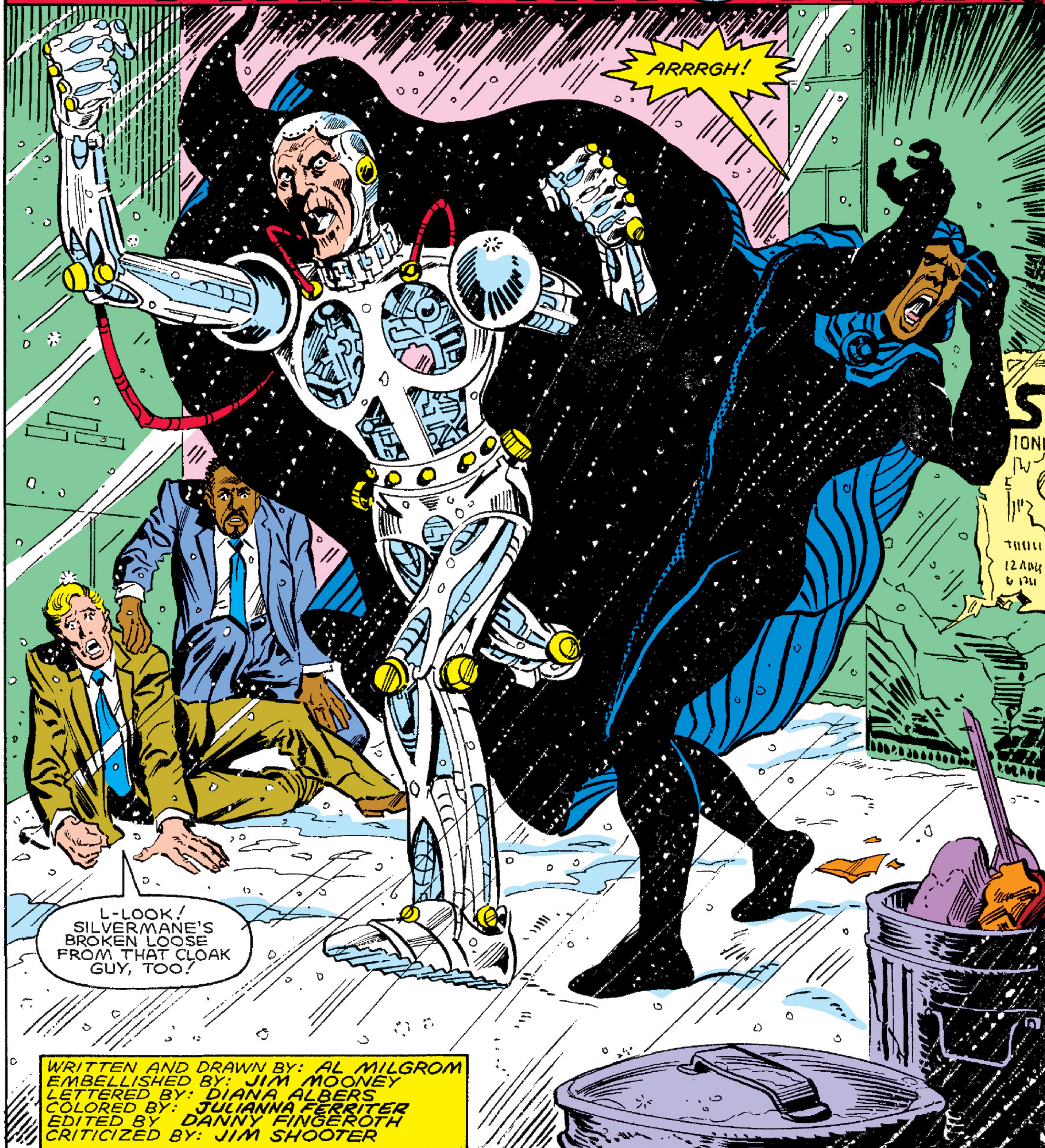
BUT HOW--?*

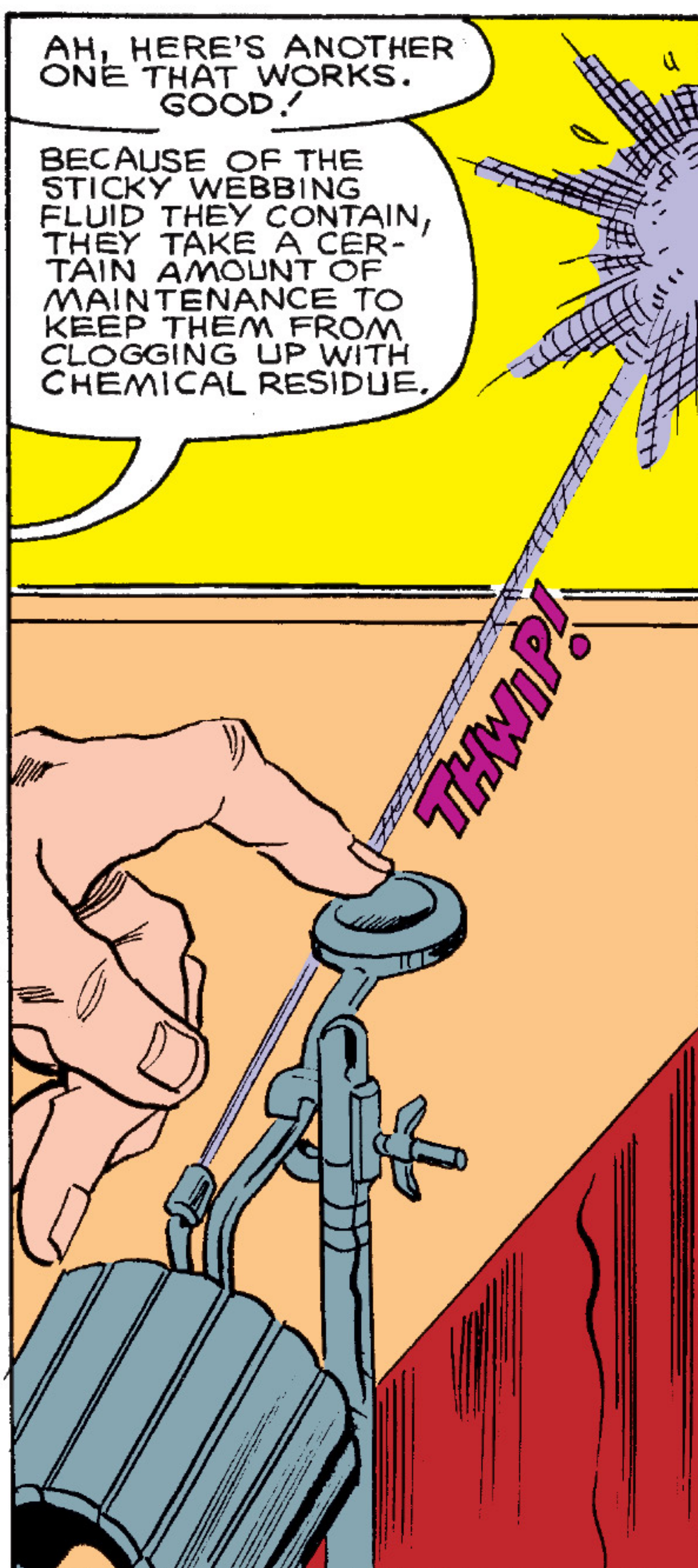
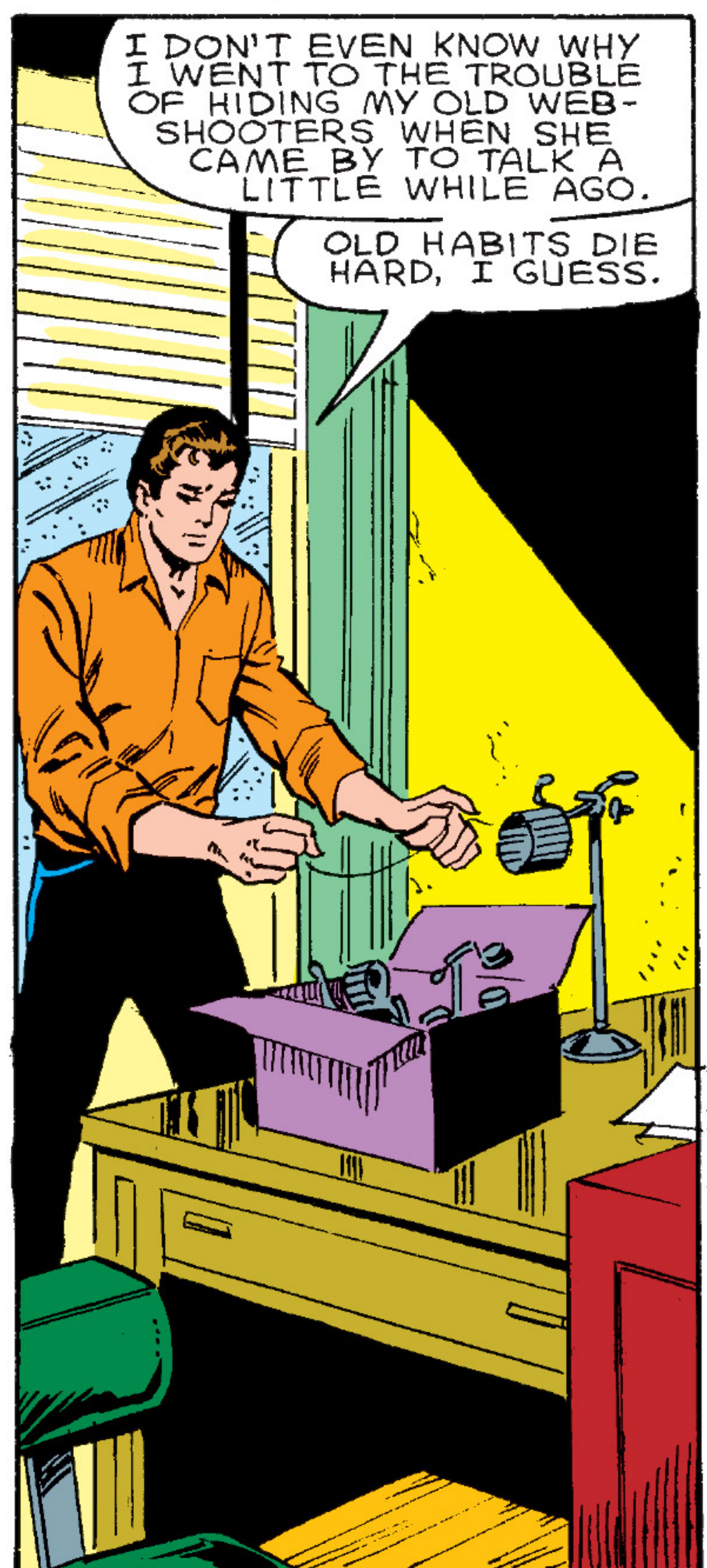
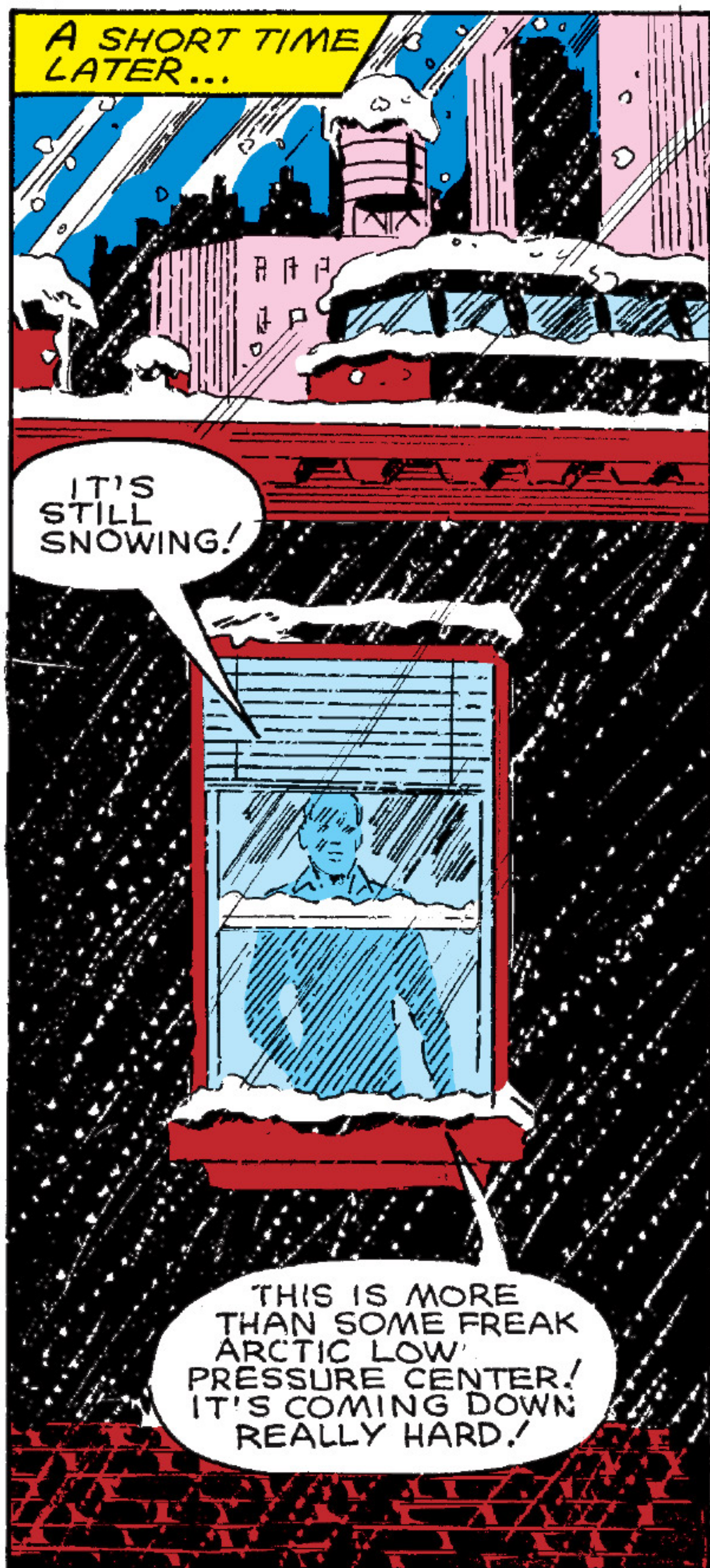
ARRR! THE PAIN!
HOW CAN I STOP THIS AWFUL PAIN?!

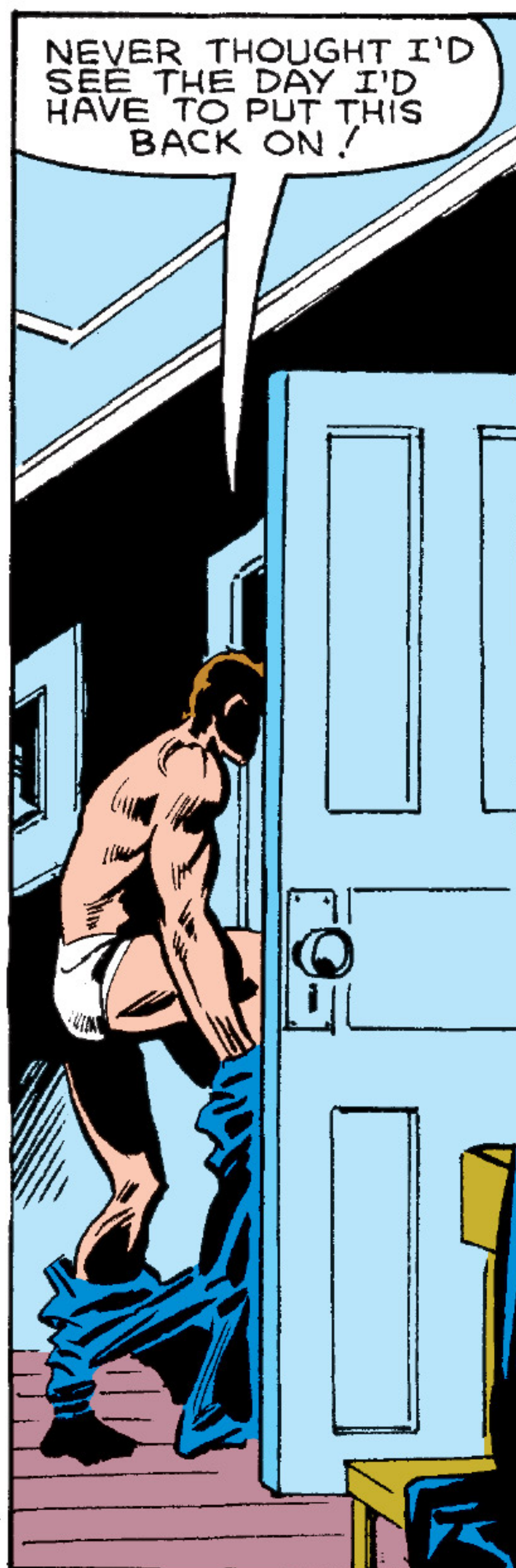
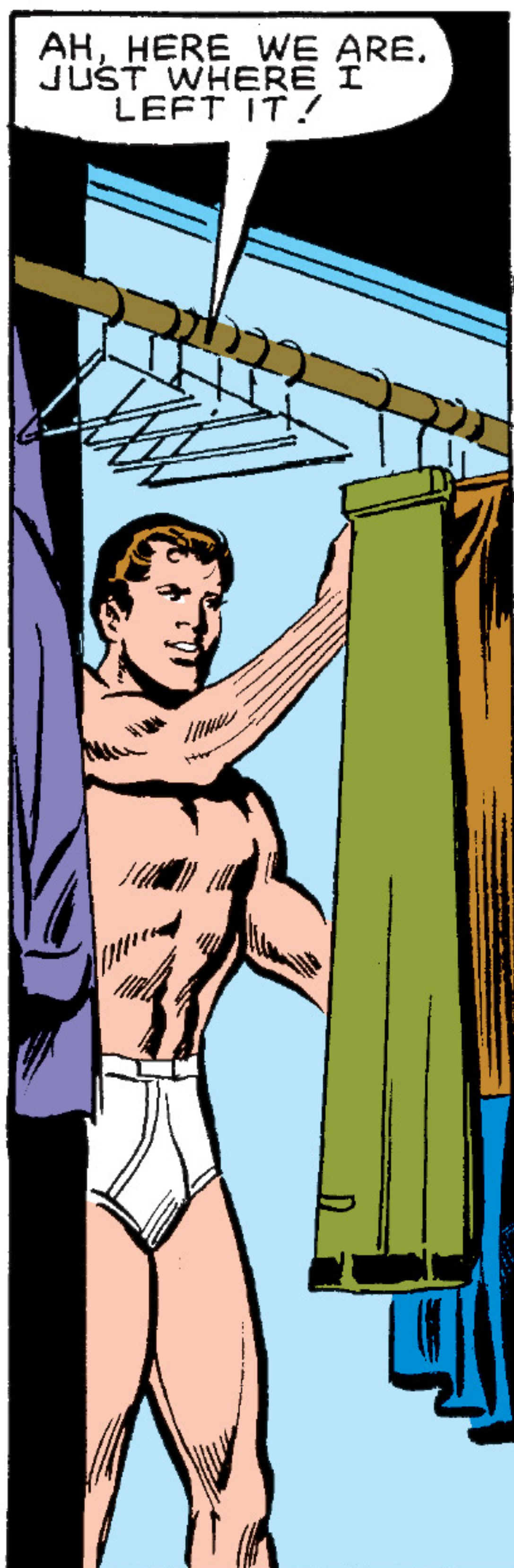
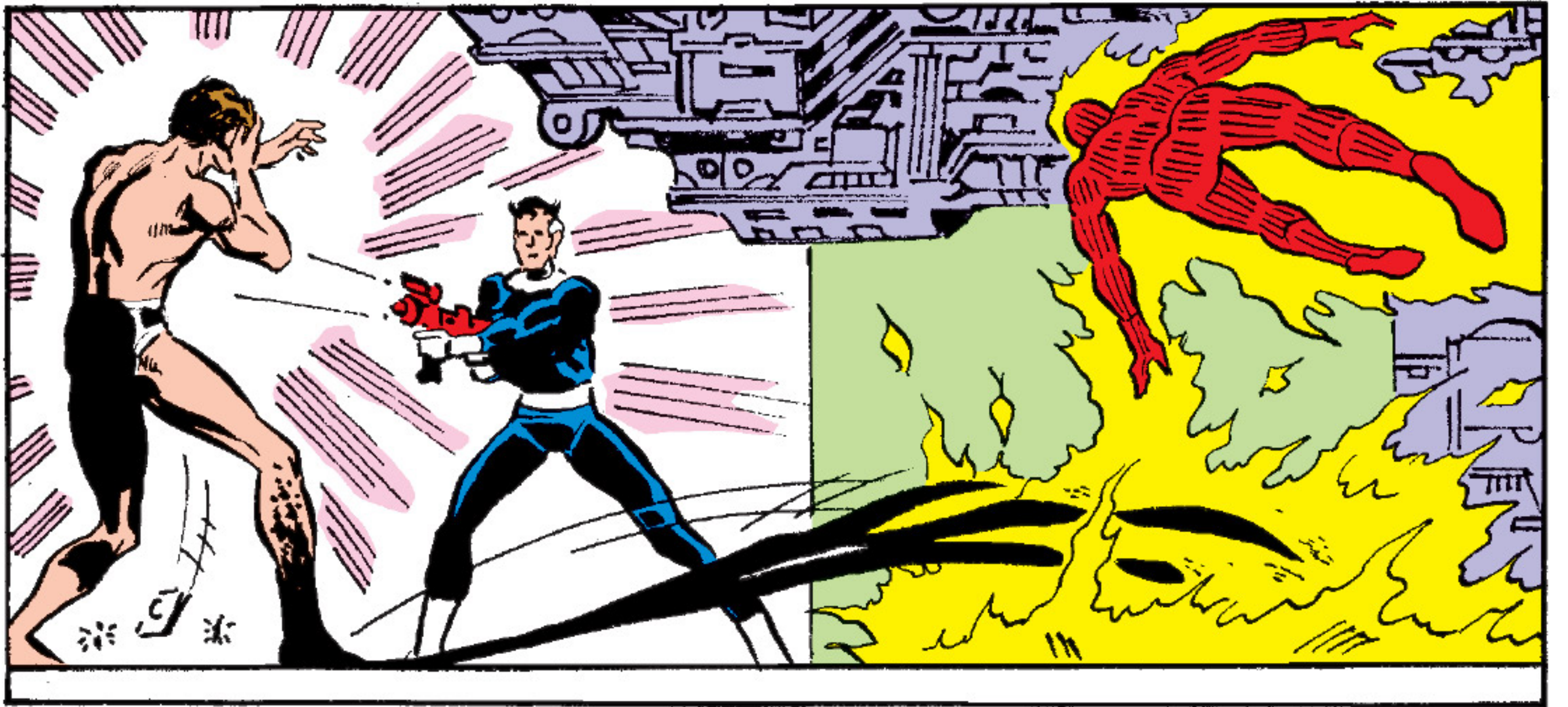
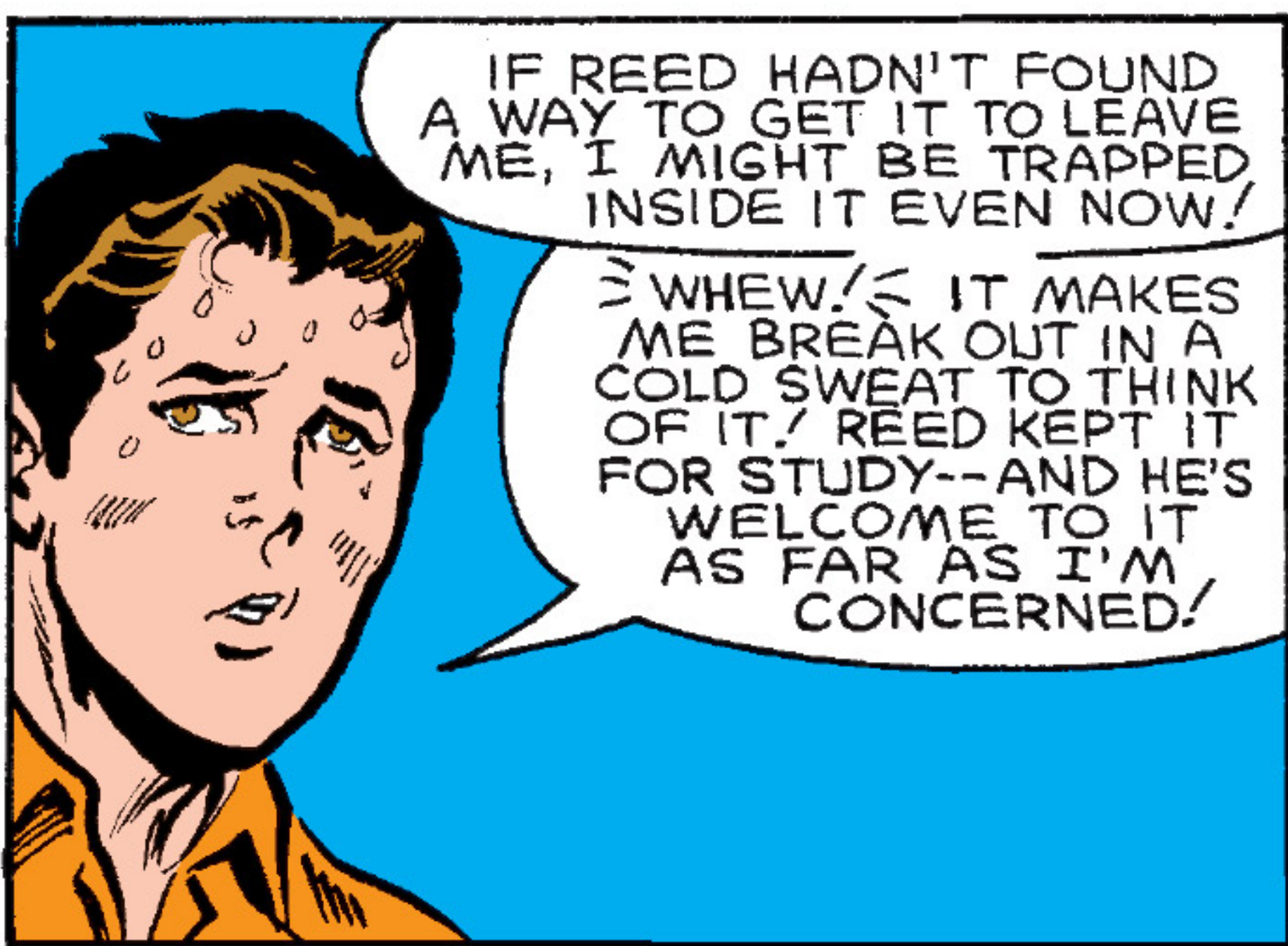
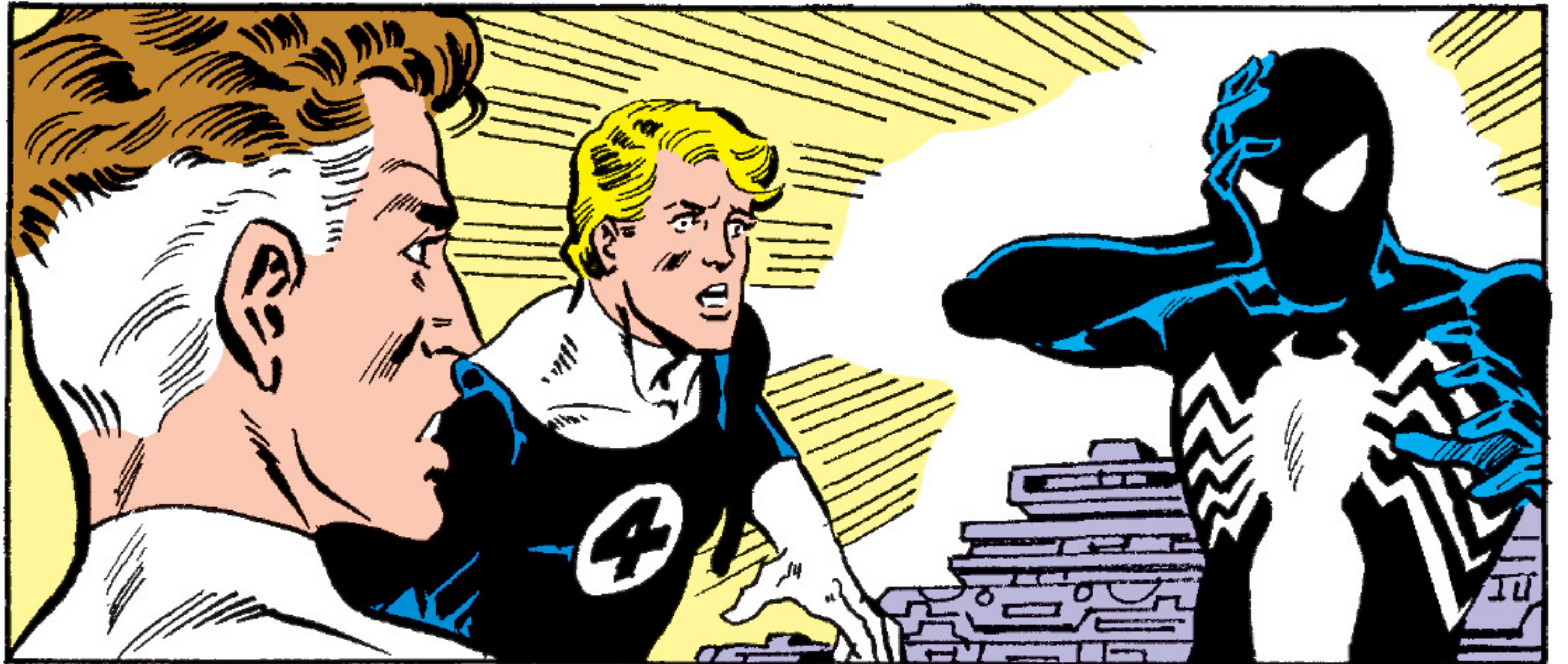
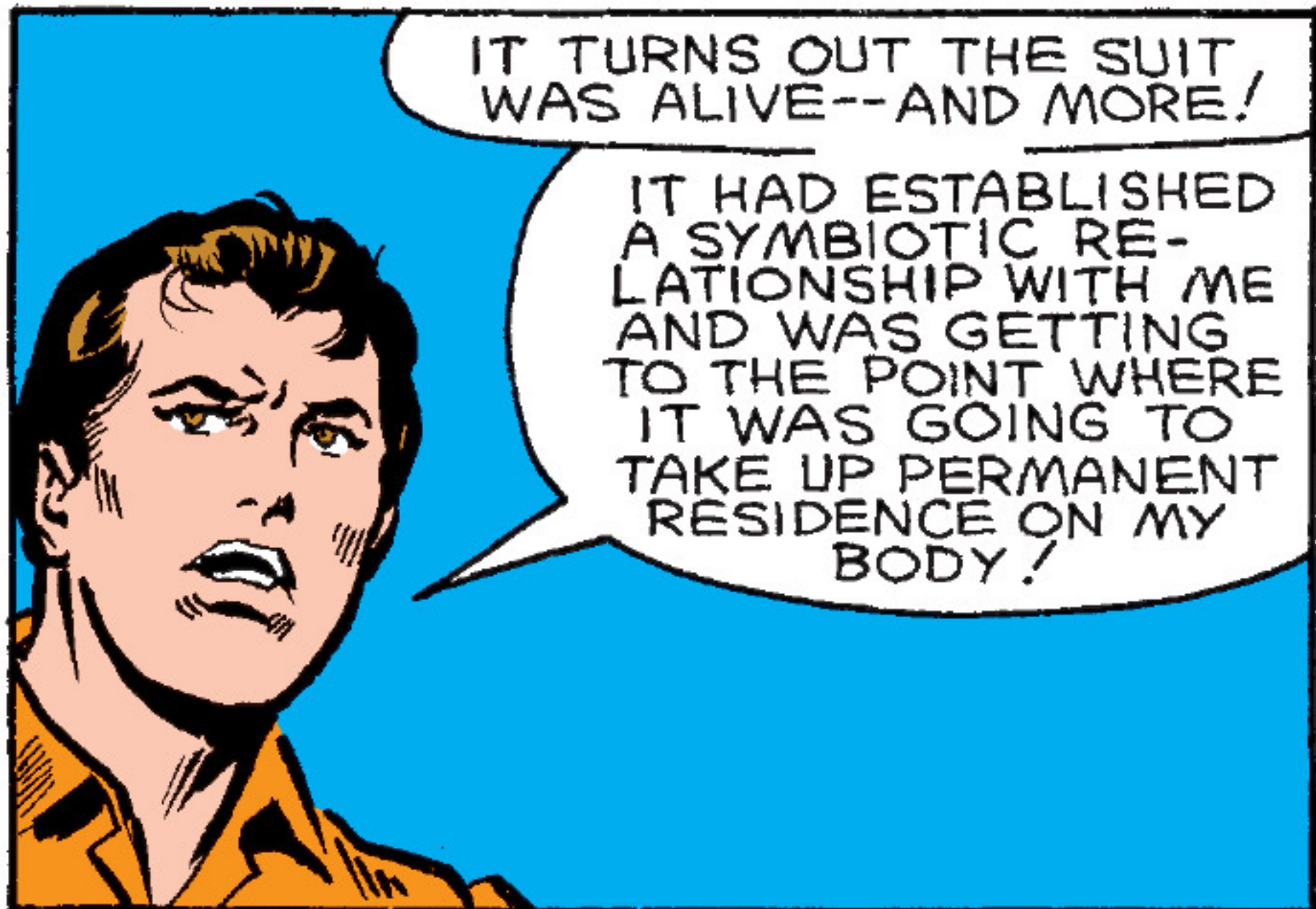
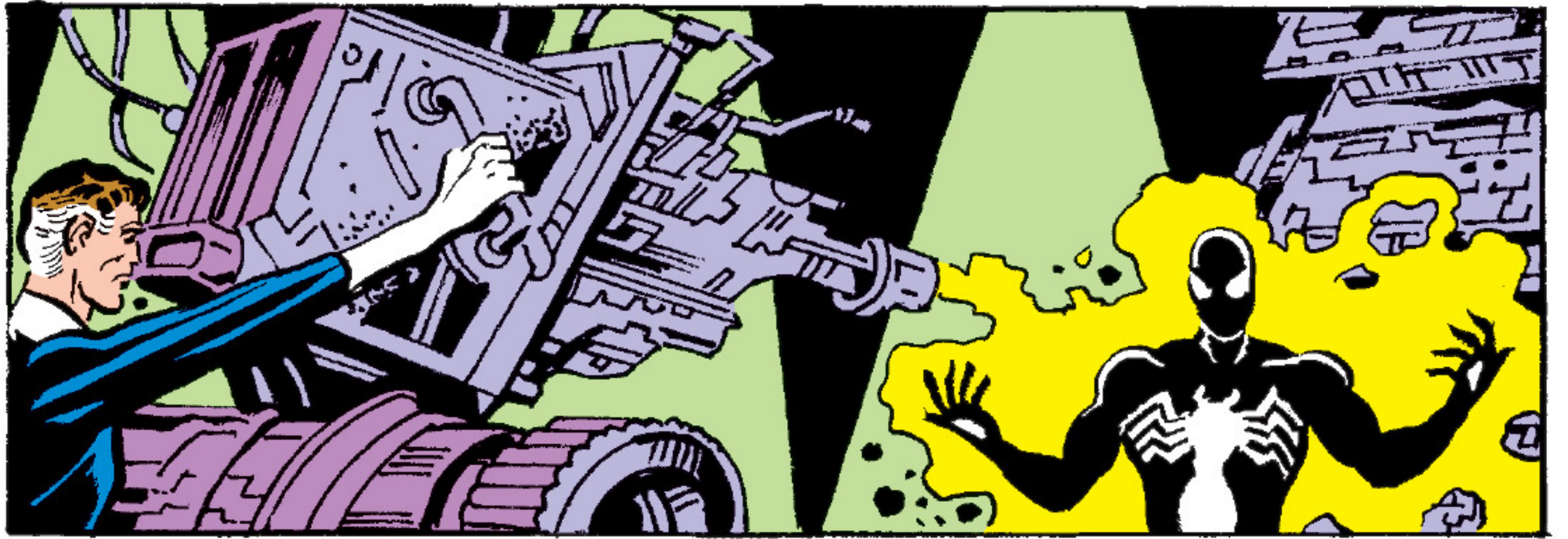
*FOR THE REASON BEHIND THIS SNOWFALL, CHECK OUT THOR # 349, ON SALE NOW--DANNY.

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

THE FINAL ANSWER!



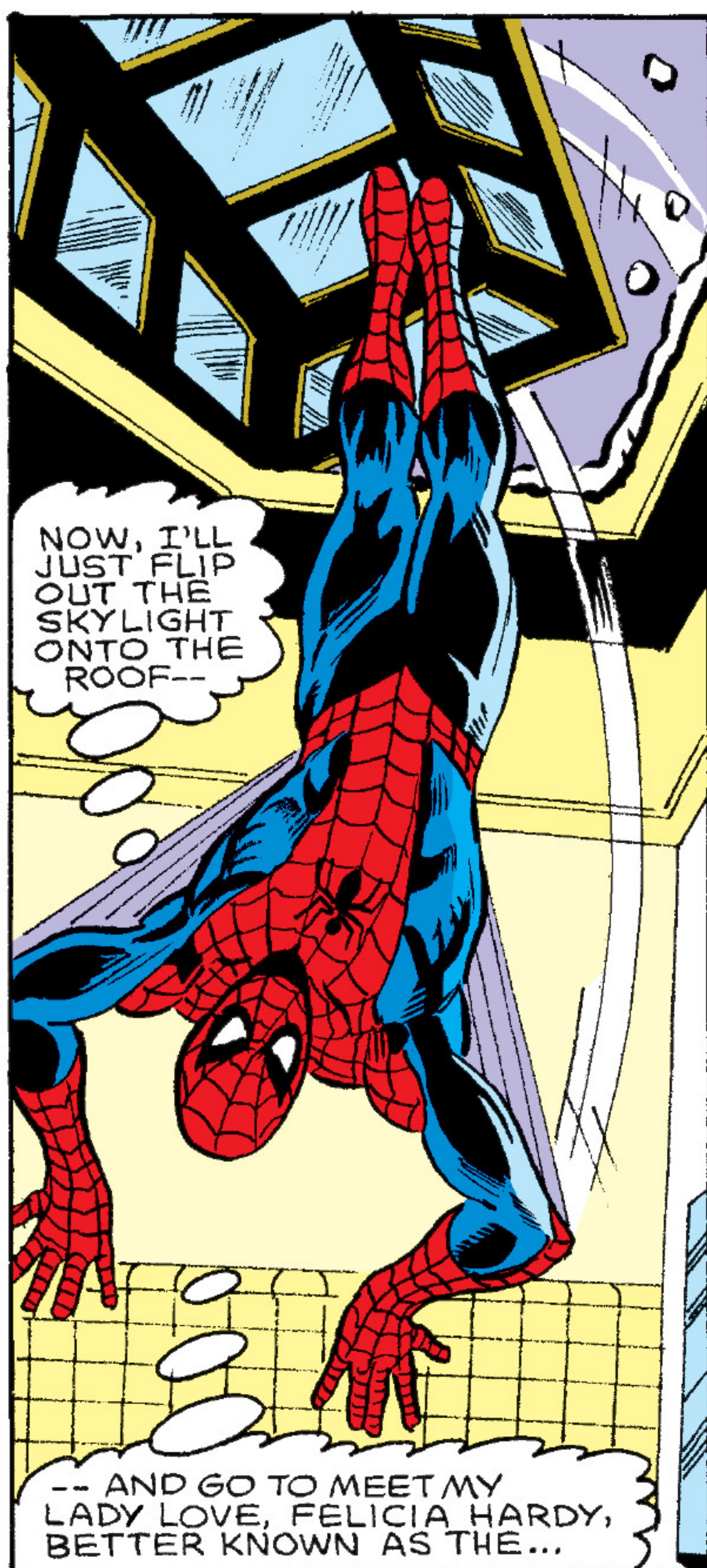




LOOK OUT, WORLD!
THE SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN IS
BACK IN HIS OLD
COSTUME!

AND THE
ORIGINAL IS
STILL THE
GREATEST!





NOW, I'LL JUST FLIP OUT THE SKYLIGHT ONTO THE ROOF--

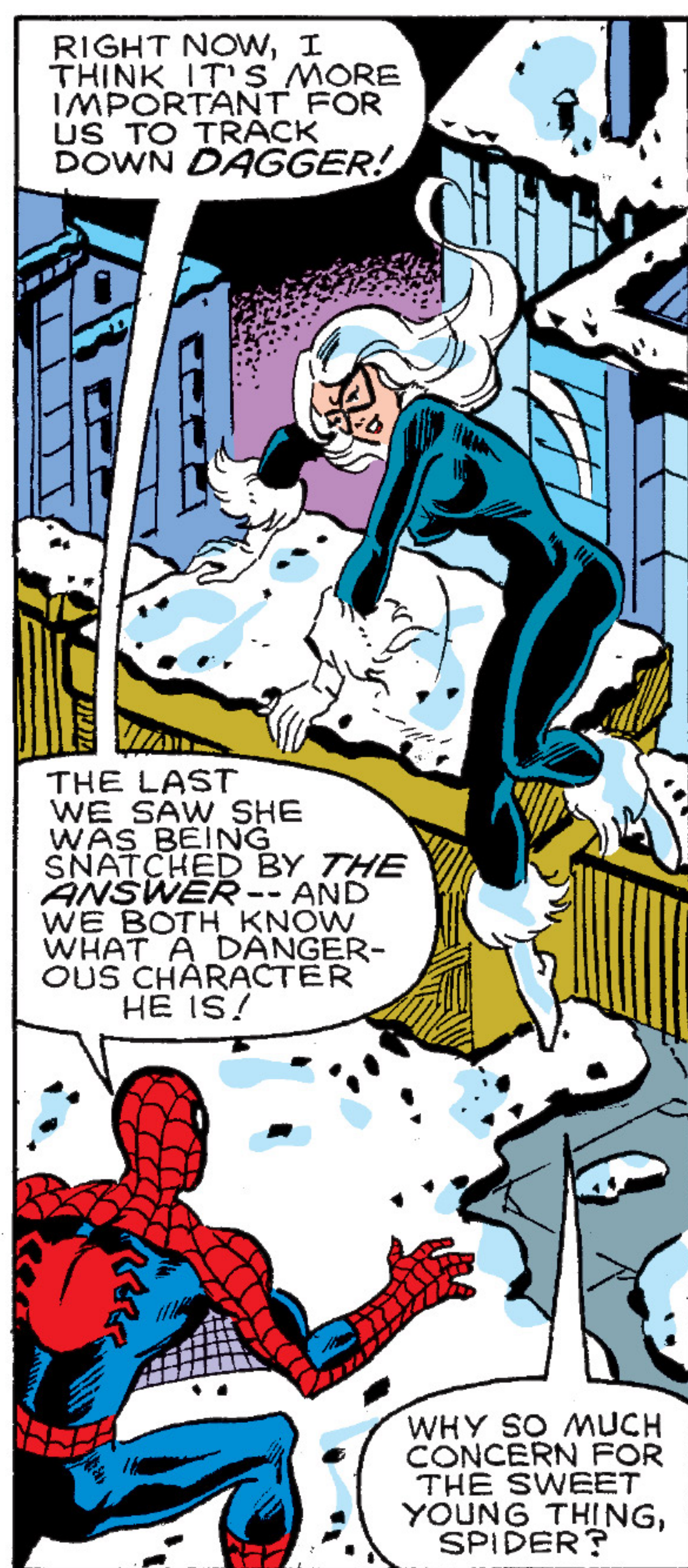
-- AND GO TO MEET MY LADY LOVE, FELICIA HARDY, BETTER KNOWN AS THE...



BLACK CAT!

SPIDER?! YOU'RE BACK IN YOUR OLD COSTUME? HOW COME?

IT'S A LONG STORY, CAT. I'LL FILL YOU IN LATER.



RIGHT NOW, I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT FOR US TO TRACK DOWN DAGGER!

THE LAST WE SAW SHE WAS BEING SNATCHED BY THE ANSWER-- AND WE BOTH KNOW WHAT A DANGEROUS CHARACTER HE IS!

WHY SO MUCH CONCERN FOR THE SWEET YOUNG THING, SPIDER?

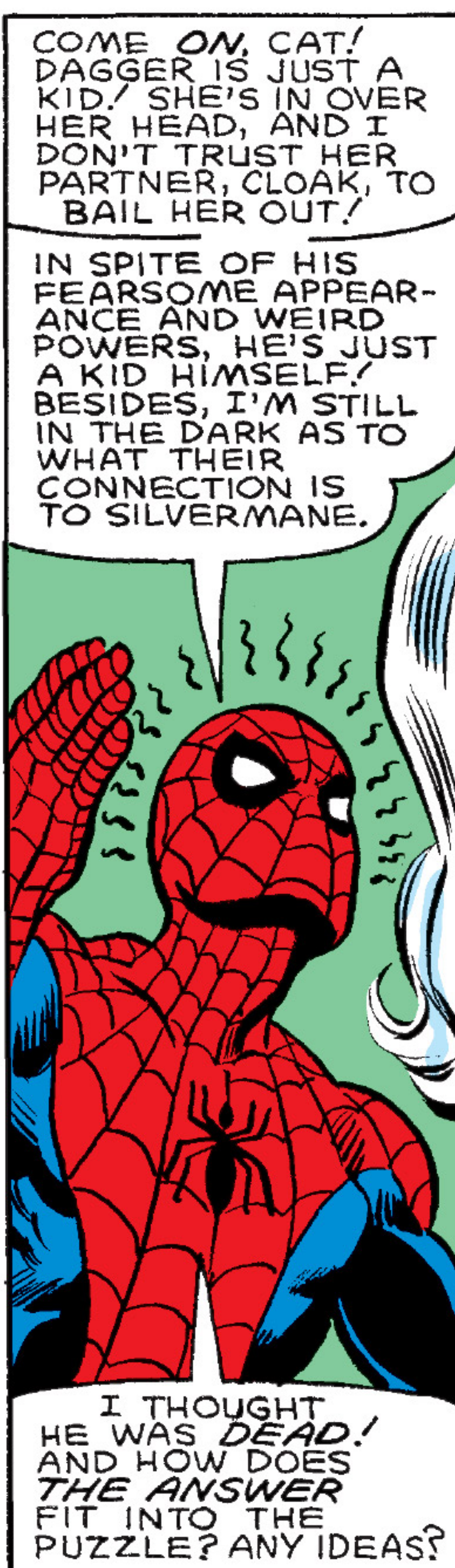


IS SHE ANOTHER ONE OF THE CUTIES YOU'VE LURED INTO YOUR ROMANTIC WEB?

HUH?

FIRST I FIND YOU WITH THAT RED-HEADED BIMBO*, NOW YOU SEEM TO HAVE MORE THAN AN ORDINARY INTEREST IN DAGGER.

* MARY JANE WATSON-- AS SEEN IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #258-- DANNY.



COME ON, CAT! DAGGER IS JUST A KID! SHE'S IN OVER HER HEAD, AND I DON'T TRUST HER PARTNER, CLOAK, TO BAIL HER OUT!

IN SPITE OF HIS FEARSOME APPEARANCE AND WEIRD POWERS, HE'S JUST A KID HIMSELF! BESIDES, I'M STILL IN THE DARK AS TO WHAT THEIR CONNECTION IS TO SILVERMANE.

I THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD! AND HOW DOES THE ANSWER FIT INTO THE PUZZLE? ANY IDEAS?

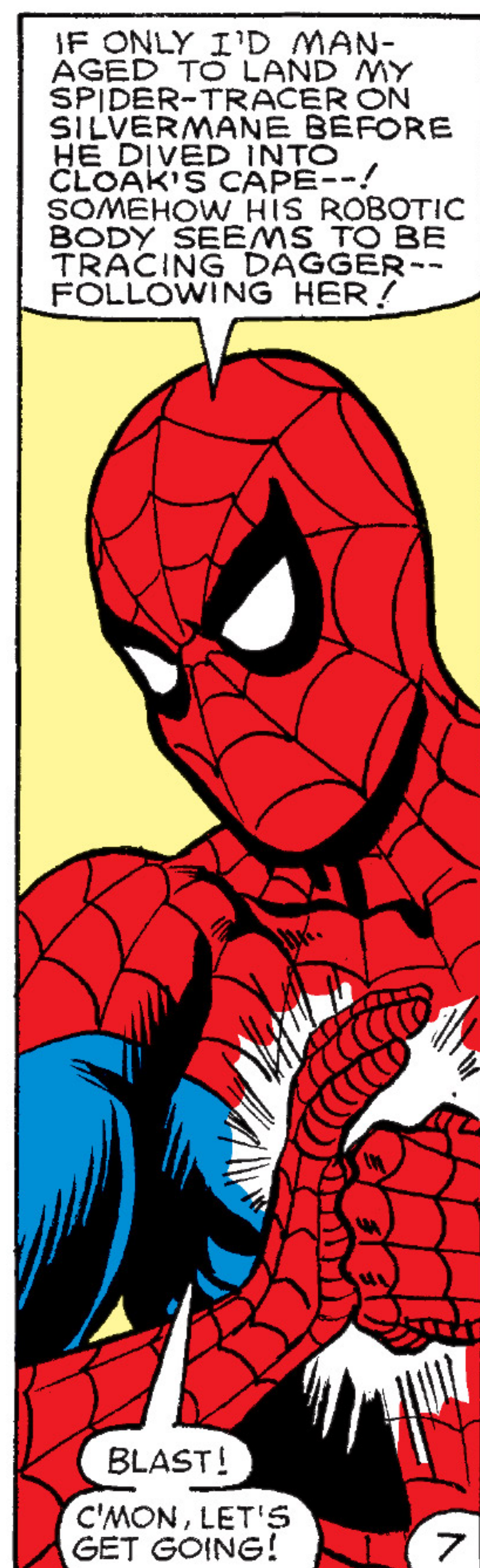


ER... NO.

BUT I KNOW THE ANSWER WORKS FOR THE KINGPIN-- I KNOW BECAUSE I HELPED THE ANSWER SNATCH SILVERMANE'S BODY FROM THE MORGUE AS REPAYMENT FOR THE KINGPIN HELPING ME ACQUIRE SUPER POWERS.

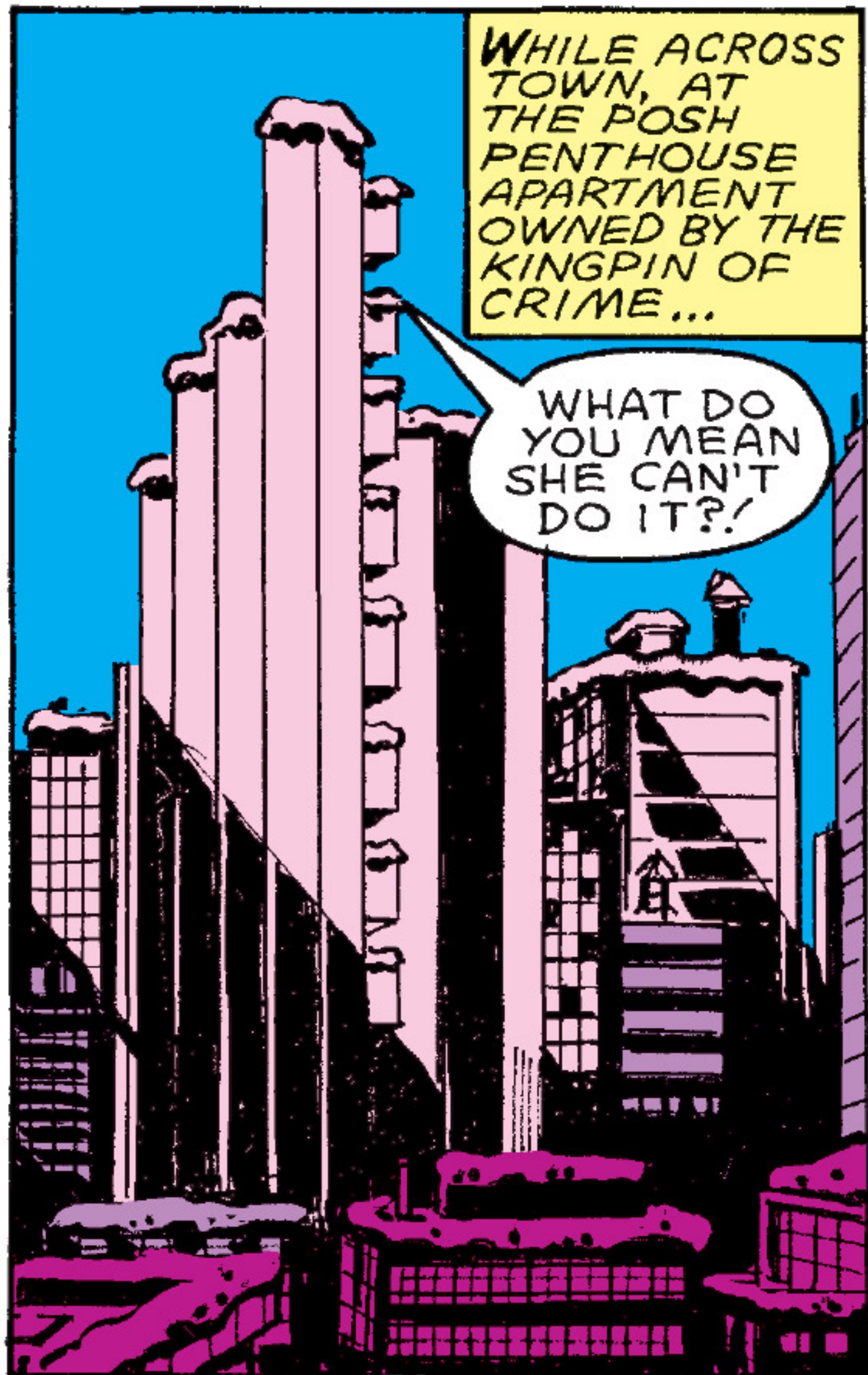
I HEARD ENOUGH FROM THE ANSWER TO KNOW THAT SOMEHOW THEY REVIVED SILVERMANE'S BIONIC BODY-- WITHOUT RESTORING HIS MIND!

BUT I CAN'T TELL SPIDER THAT! IF HE FINDS OUT ABOUT MY CONNECTION TO HIS ARCH-ENEMY, THE KINGPIN, HE'LL NEVER TRUST ME AGAIN!



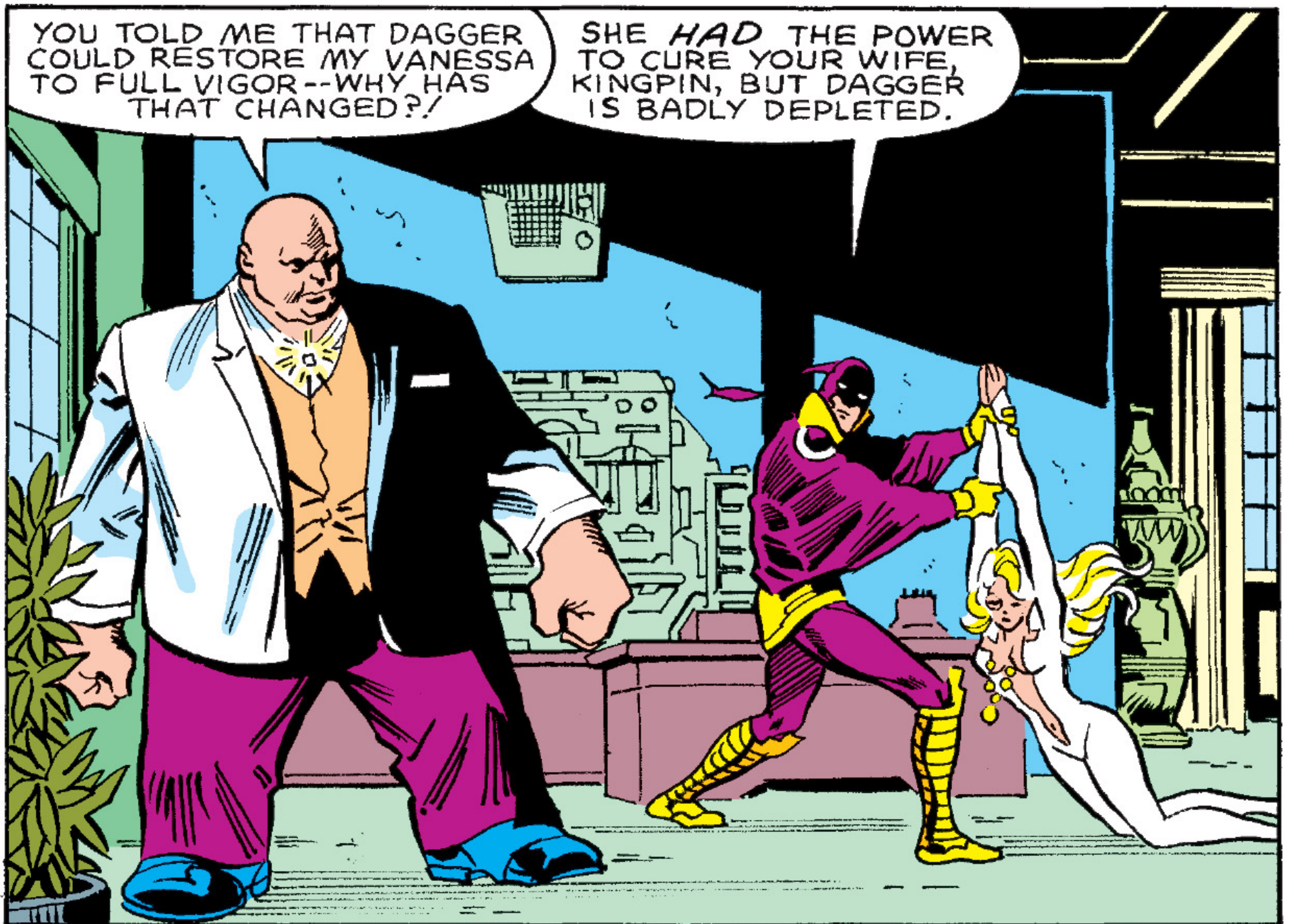
IF ONLY I'D MANAGED TO LAND MY SPIDER-TRACER ON SILVERMANE BEFORE HE DIVED INTO CLOAK'S CAPE--! SOMEHOW HIS ROBOTIC BODY SEEMS TO BE TRACING DAGGER-- FOLLOWING HER!

BLAST! C'MON, LET'S GET GOING!



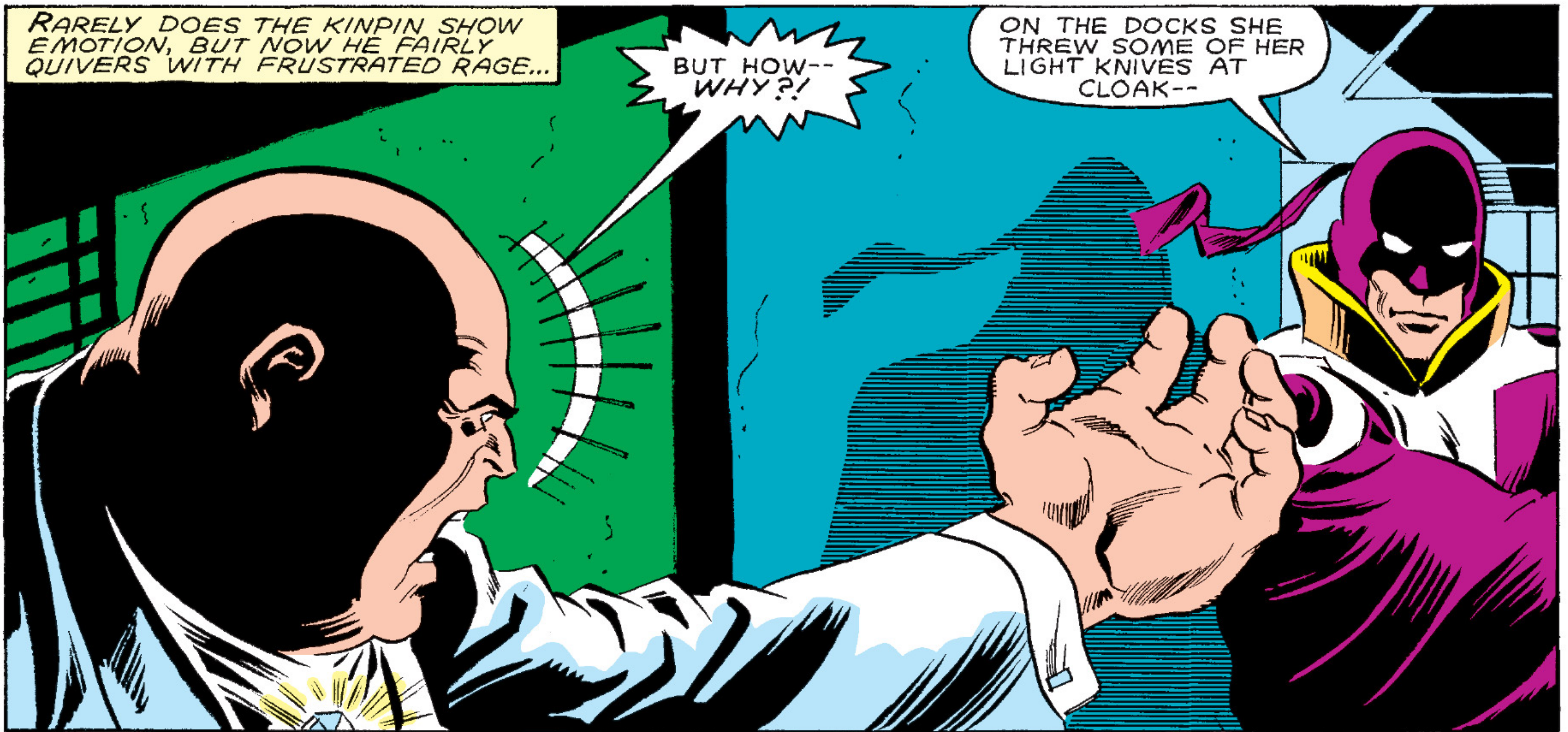
WHILE ACROSS TOWN, AT THE POSH PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OWNED BY THE KINGPIN OF CRIME...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN SHE CAN'T DO IT?!



YOU TOLD ME THAT DAGGER COULD RESTORE MY VANESSA TO FULL VIGOR--WHY HAS THAT CHANGED?!

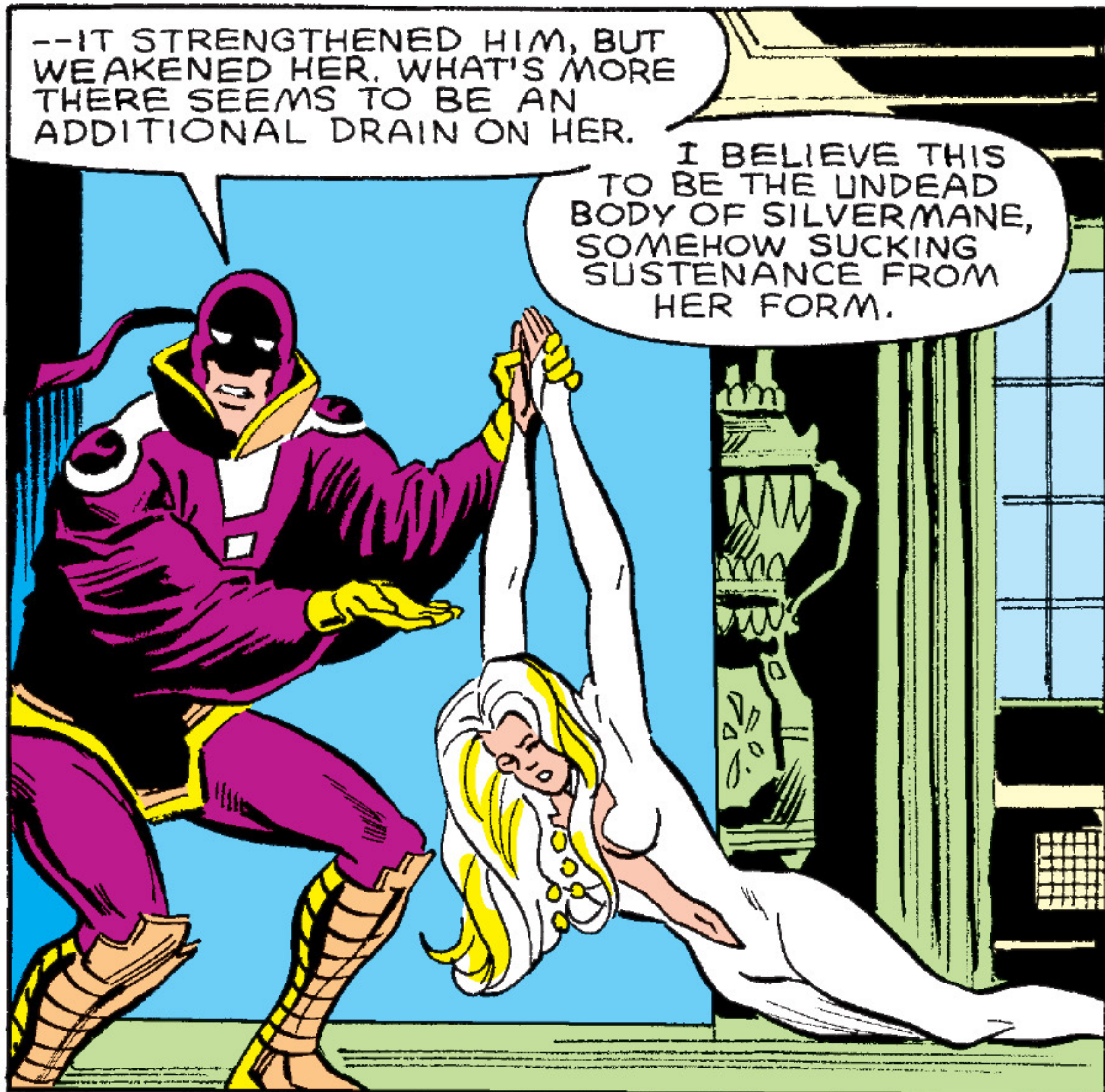
SHE *HAD* THE POWER TO CURE YOUR WIFE, KINGPIN, BUT DAGGER IS BADLY DEPLETED.



RARELY DOES THE KINGPIN SHOW EMOTION, BUT NOW HE FAIRLY QUIVERS WITH FRUSTRATED RAGE...

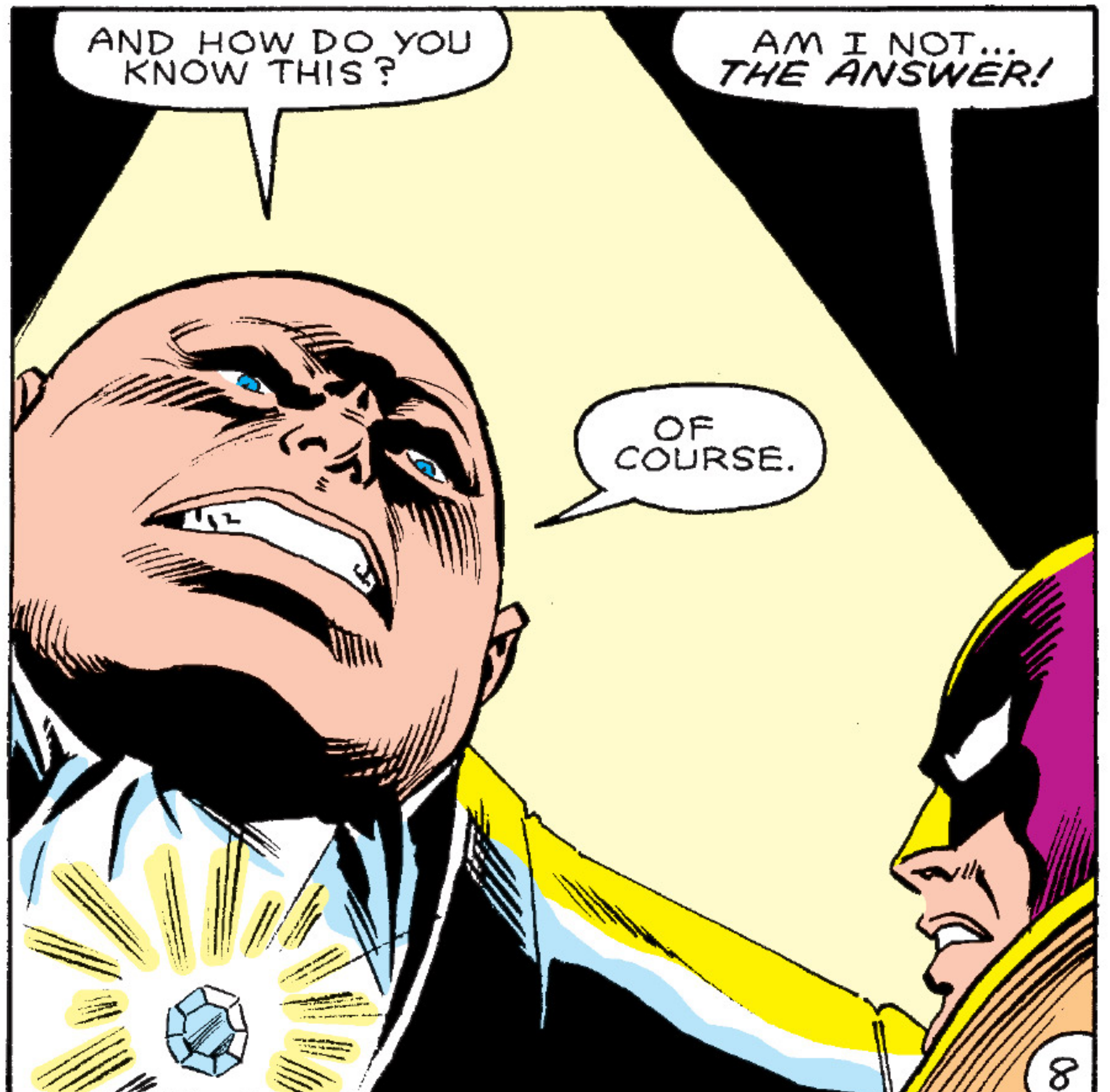
BUT HOW--WHY?!

ON THE DOCKS SHE THREW SOME OF HER LIGHT KNIVES AT CLOAK--



--IT STRENGTHENED HIM, BUT WEAKENED HER. WHAT'S MORE THERE SEEMS TO BE AN ADDITIONAL DRAIN ON HER.

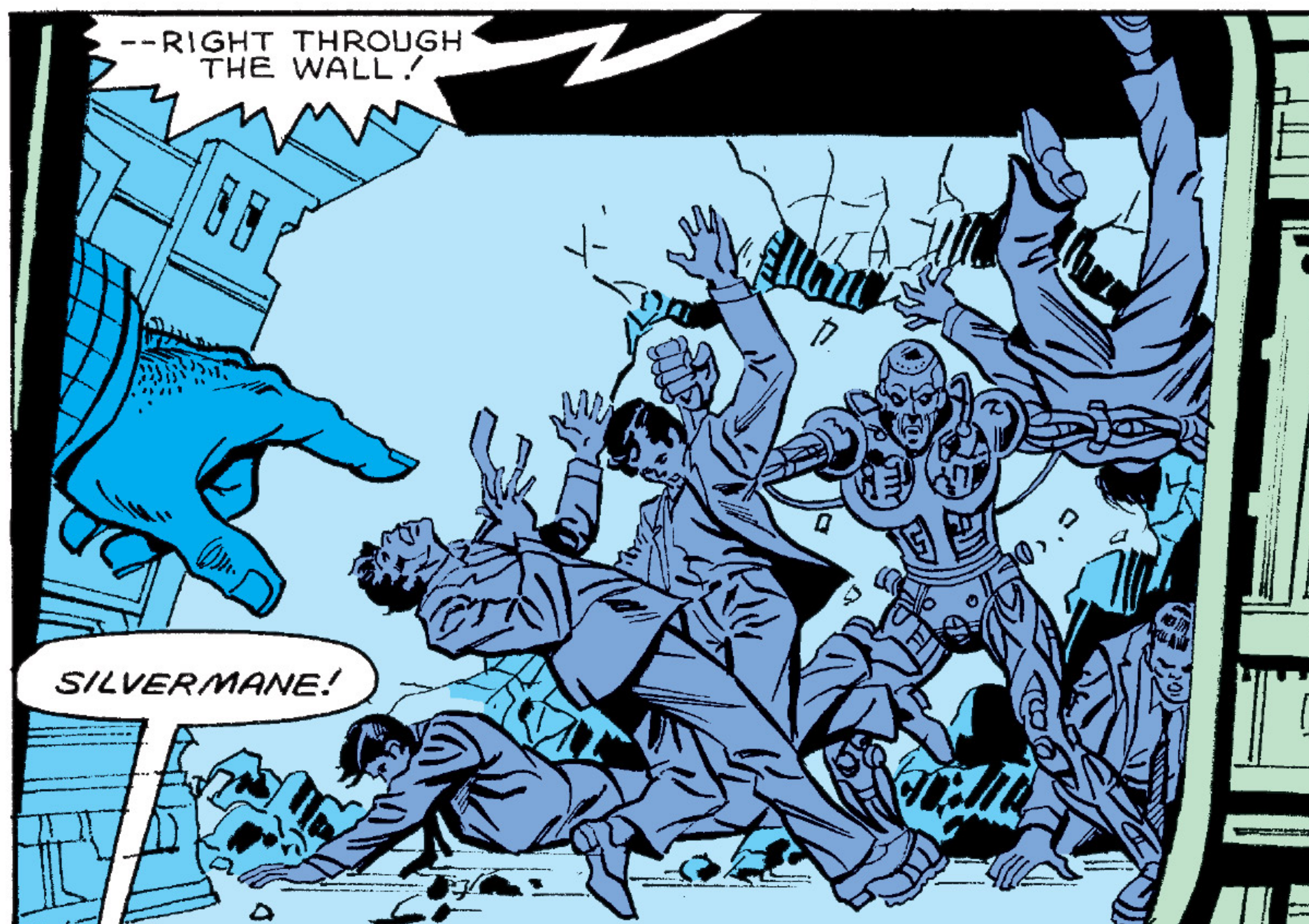
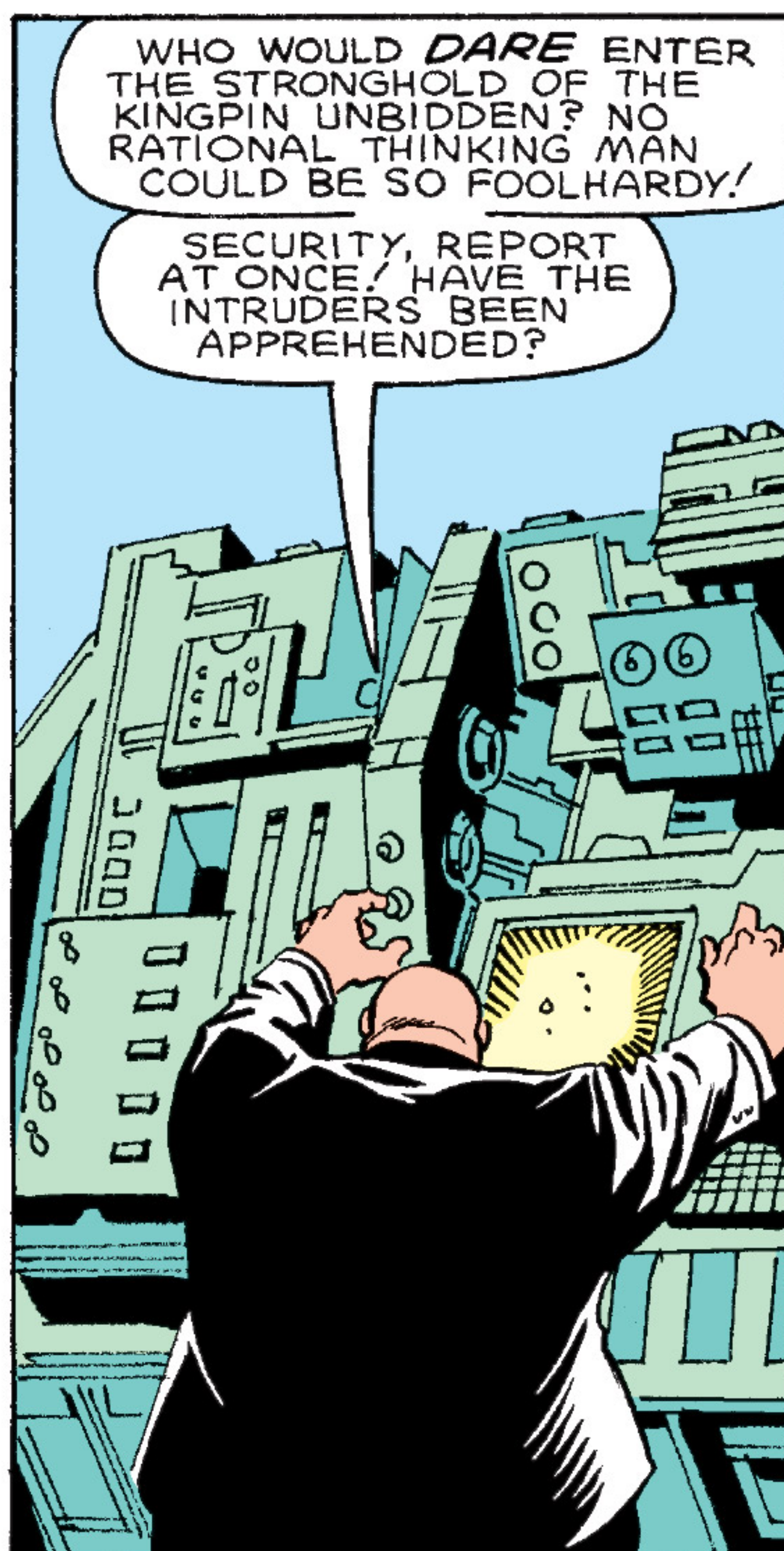
I BELIEVE THIS TO BE THE UNDEAD BODY OF SILVERMANE, SOMEHOW SUCKING SUSTENANCE FROM HER FORM.

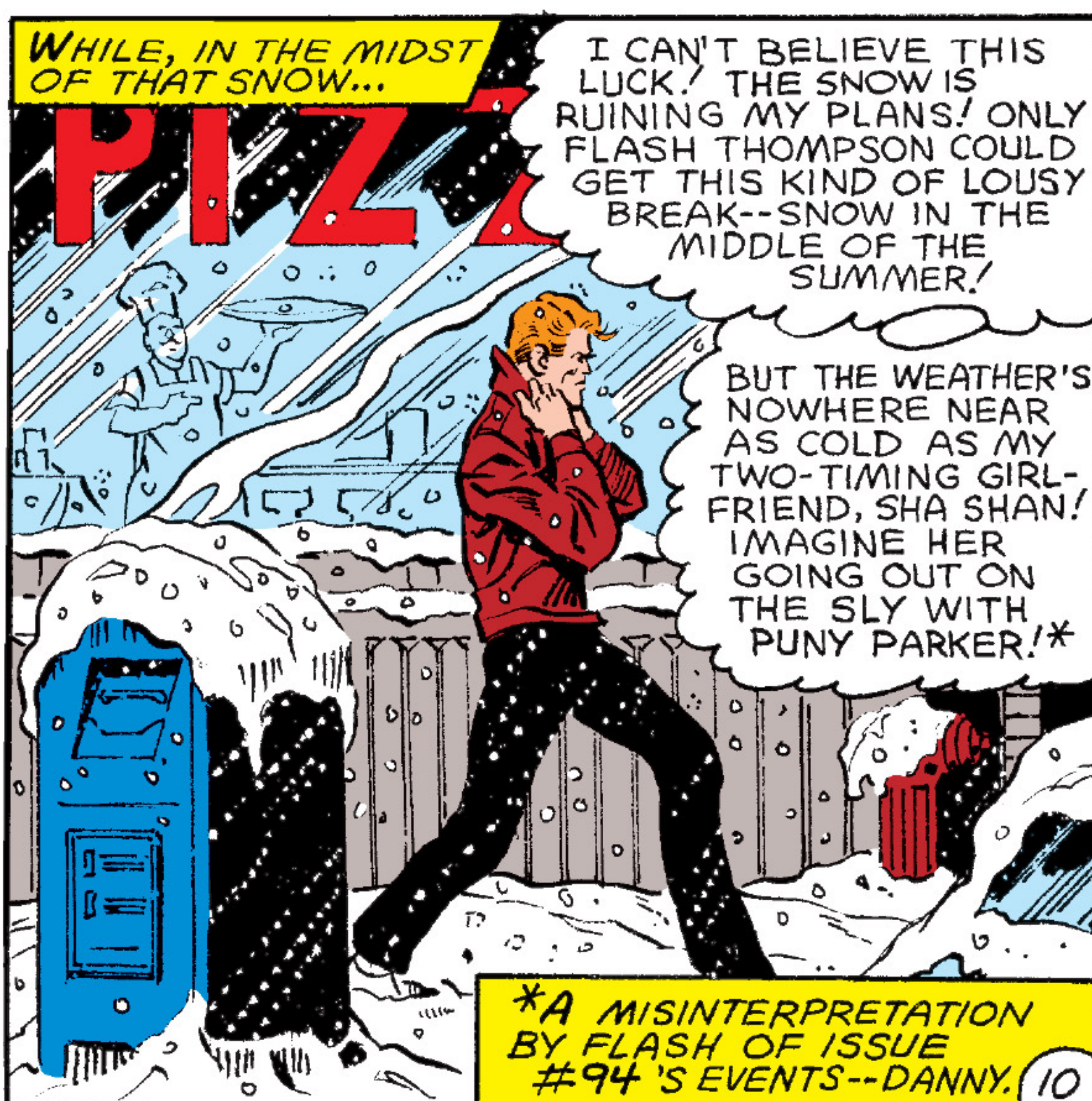
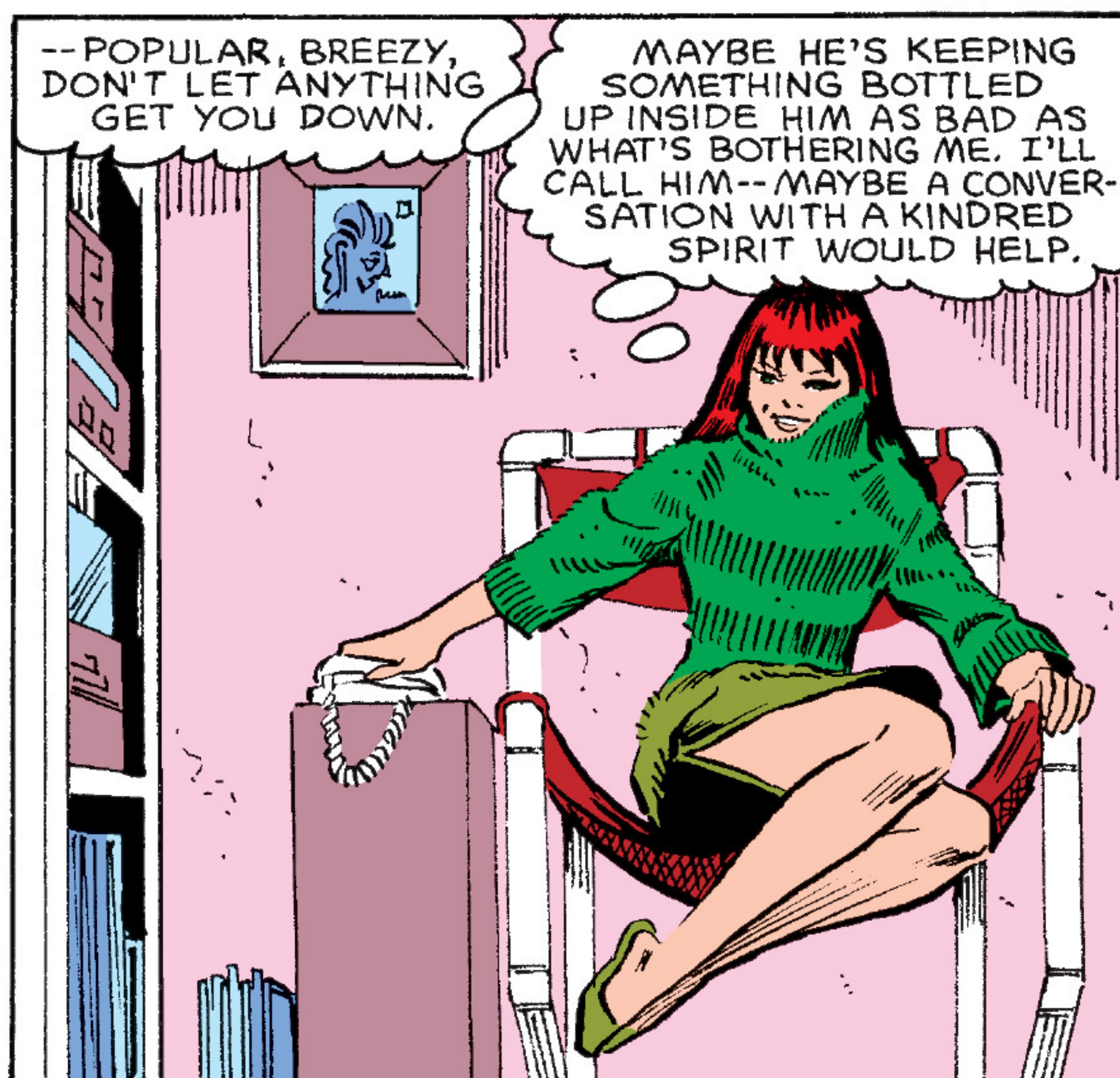
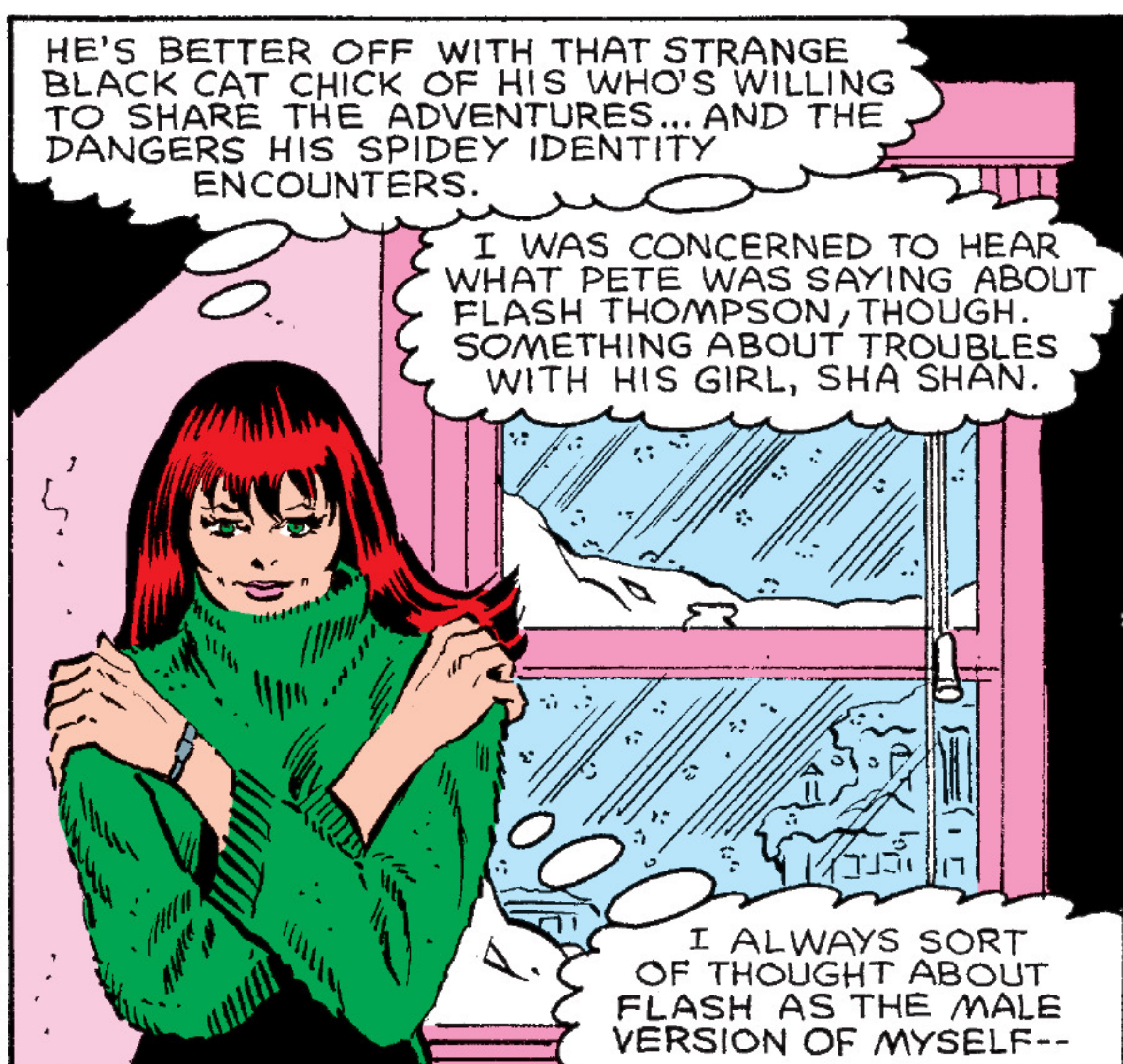
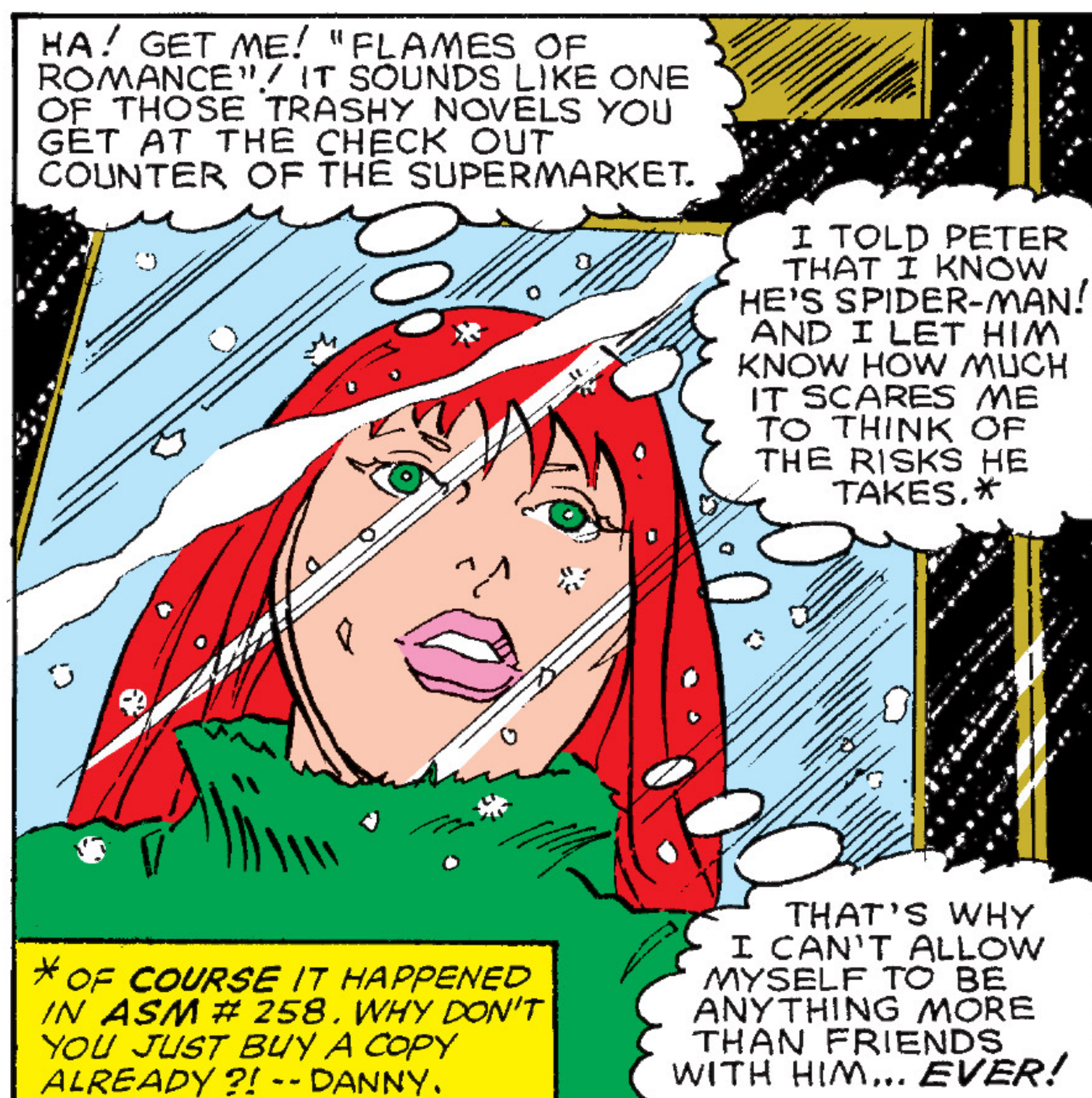
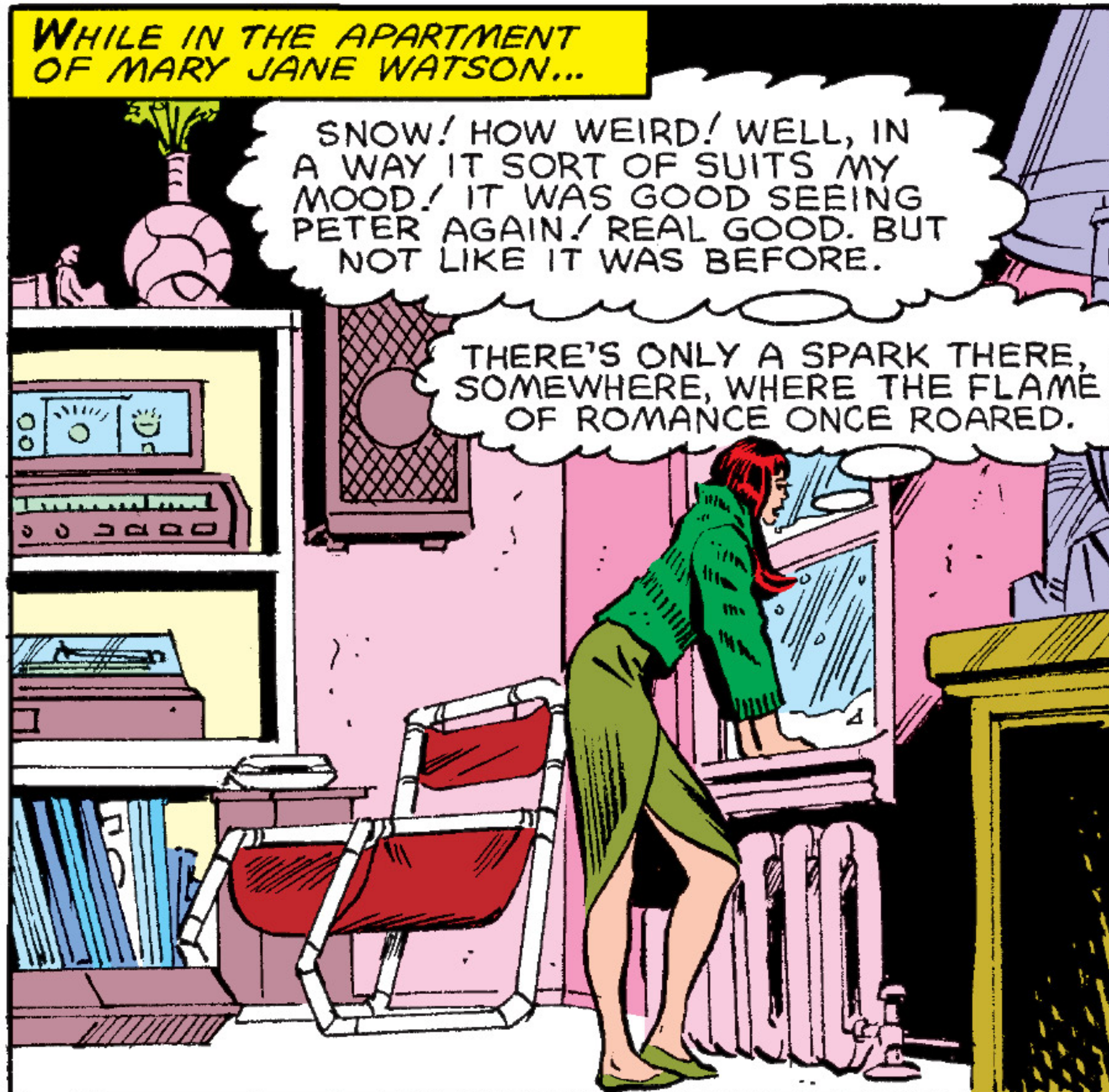


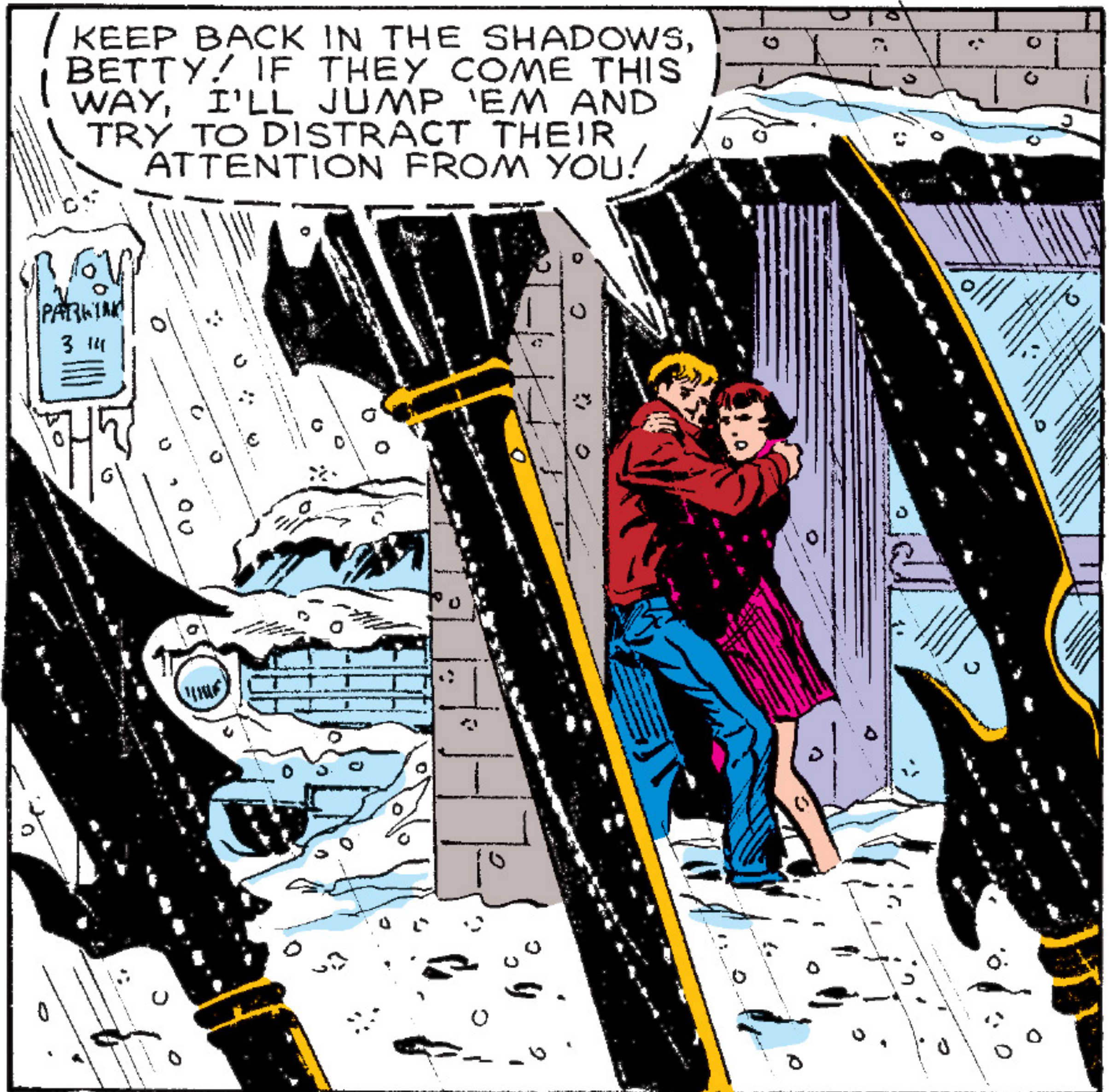
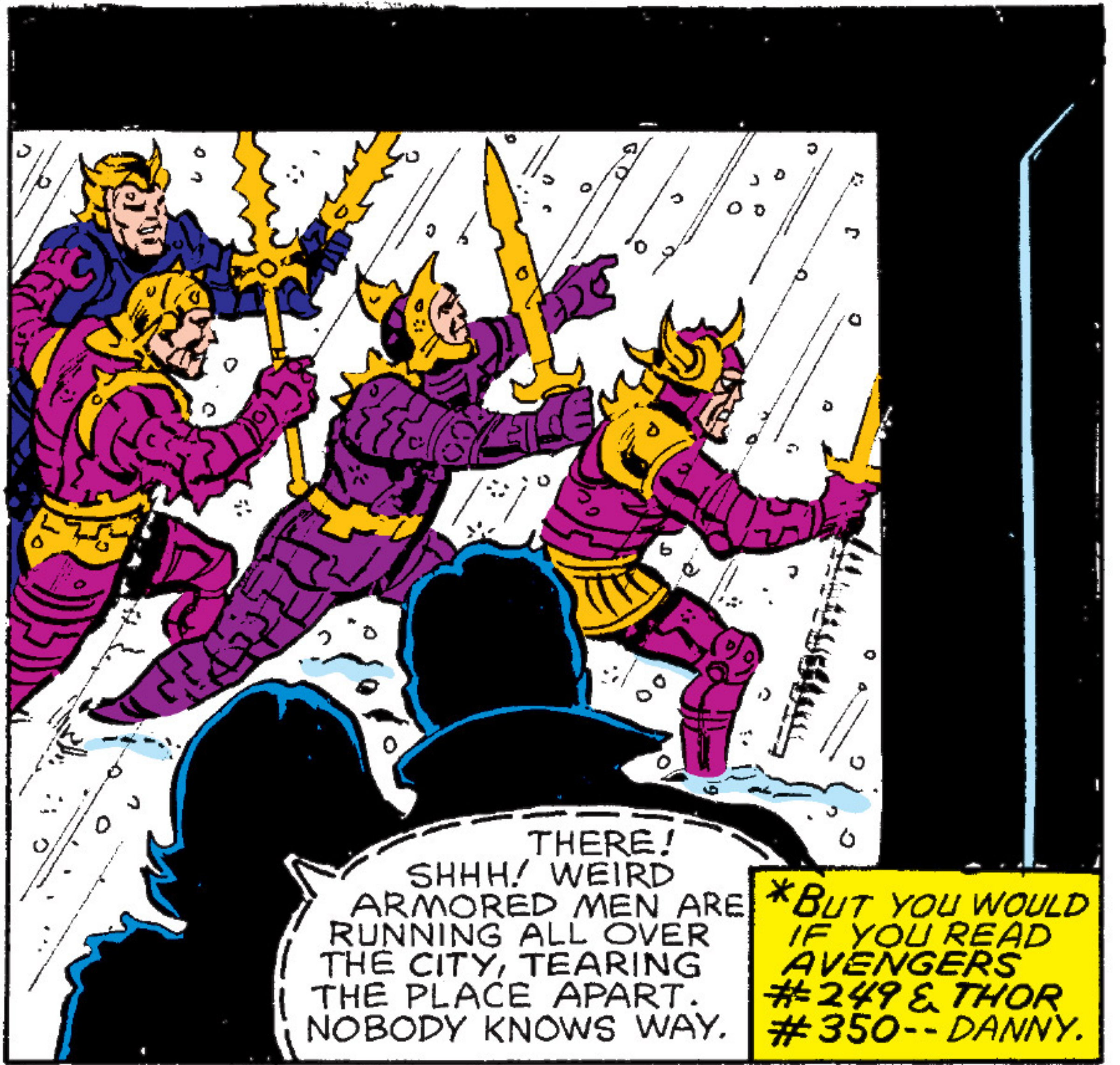
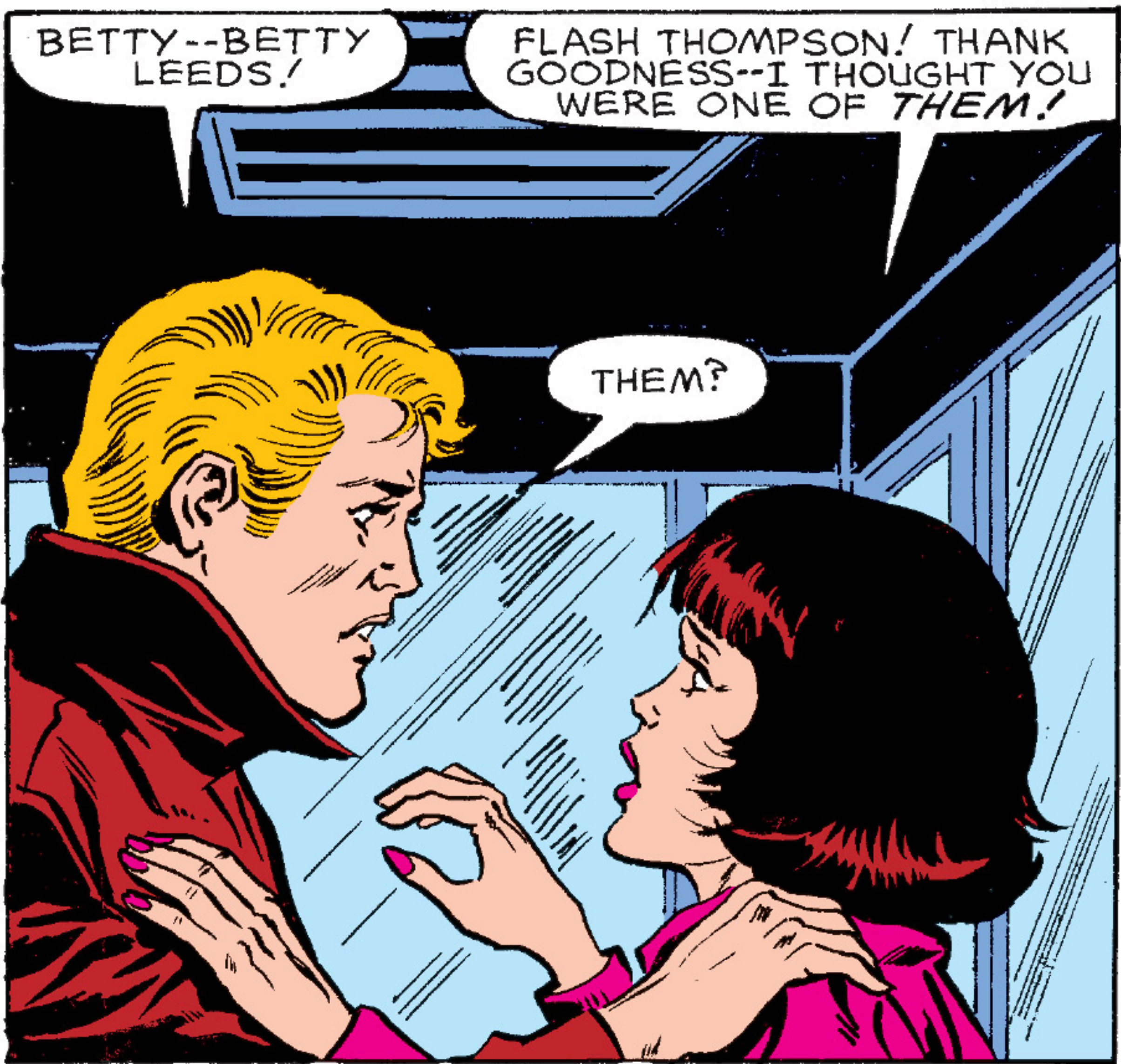
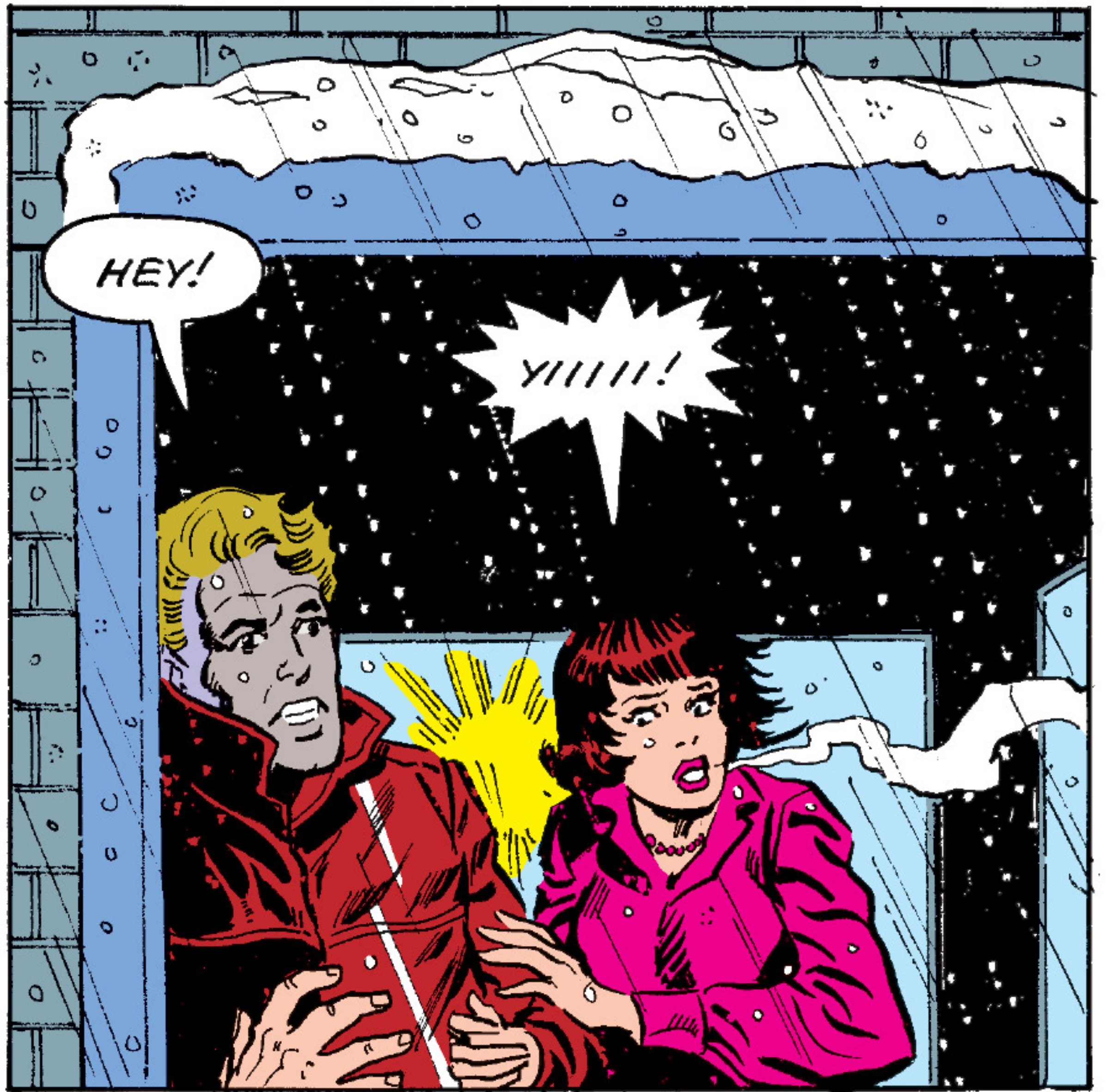
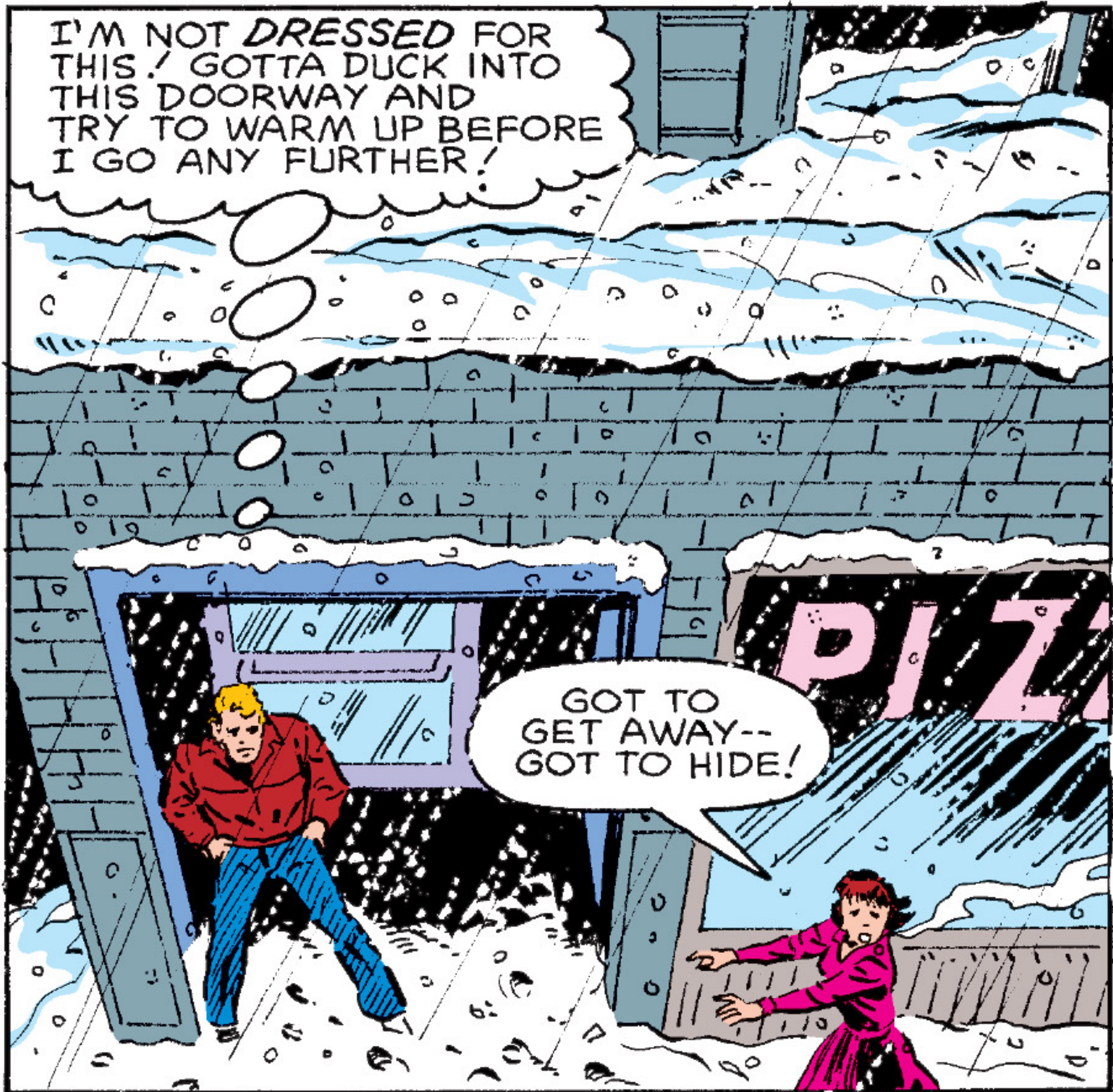
AND HOW DO YOU KNOW THIS?

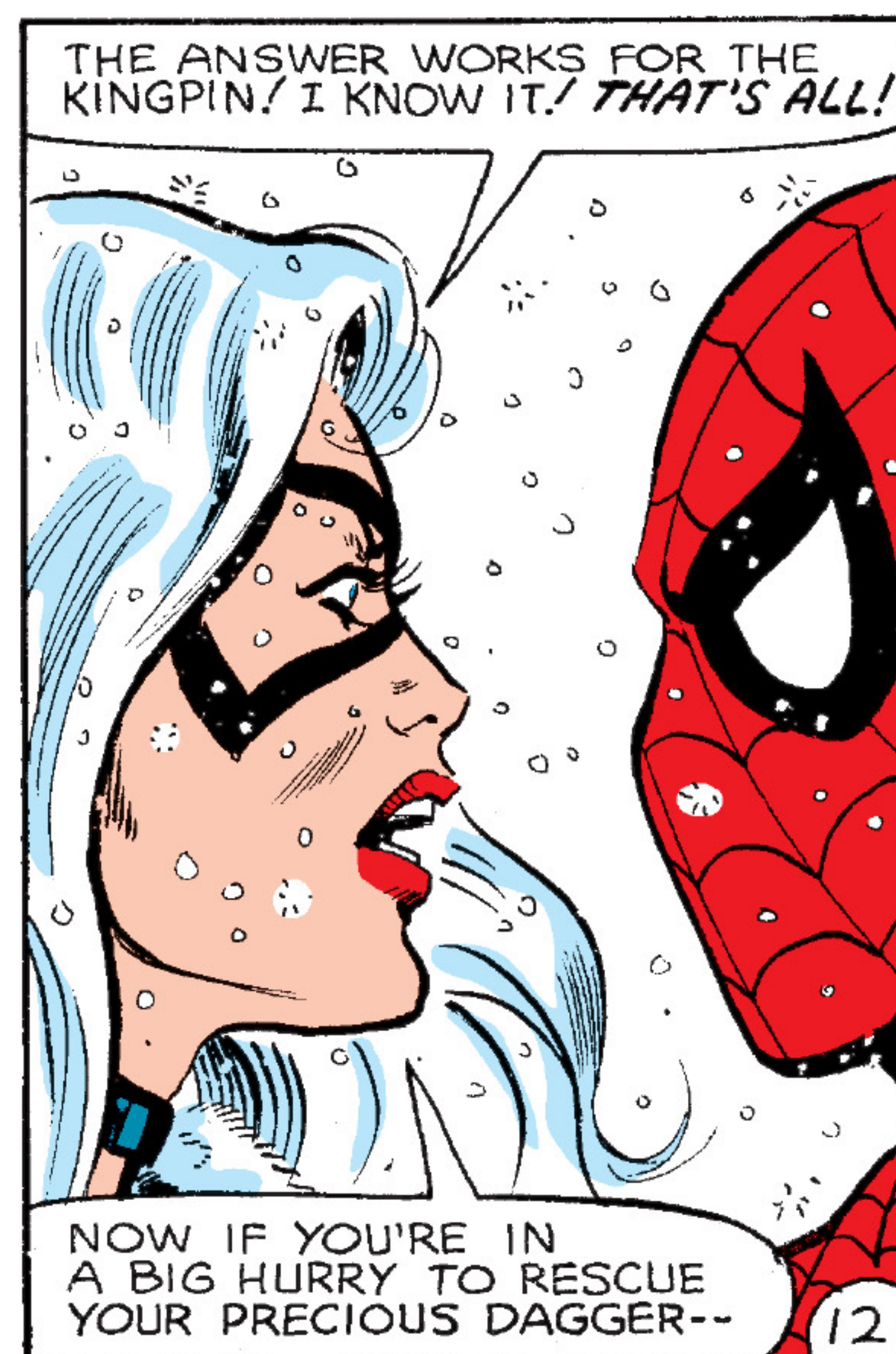
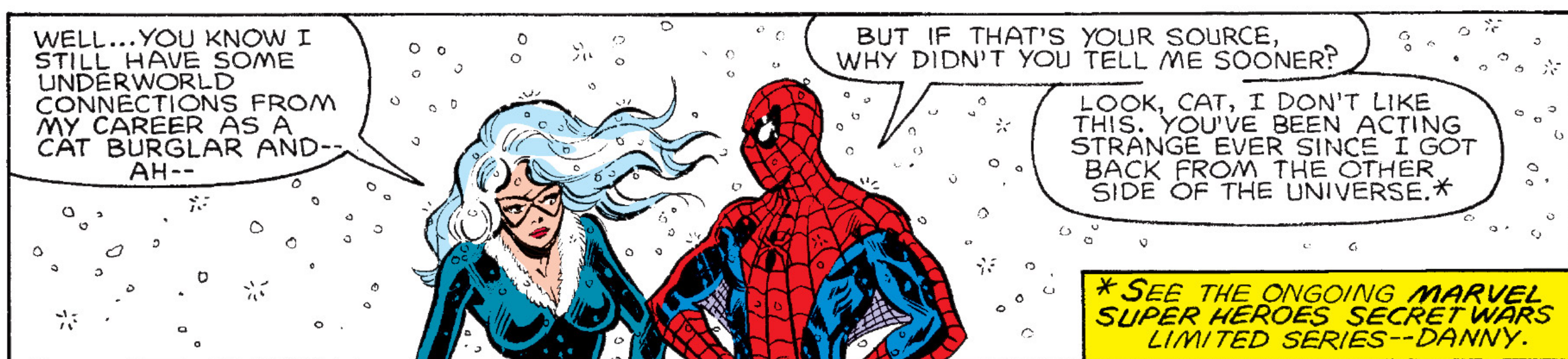
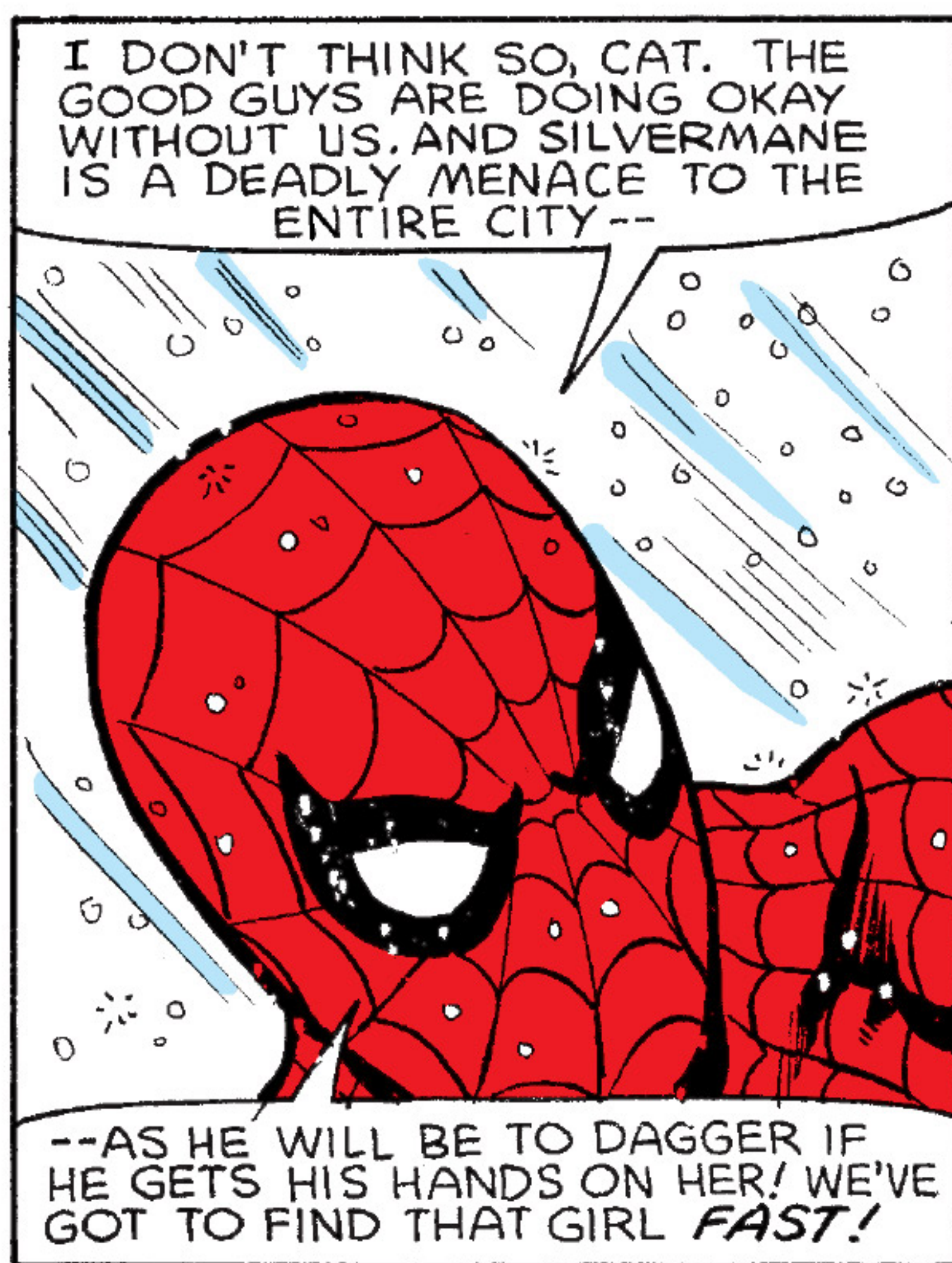
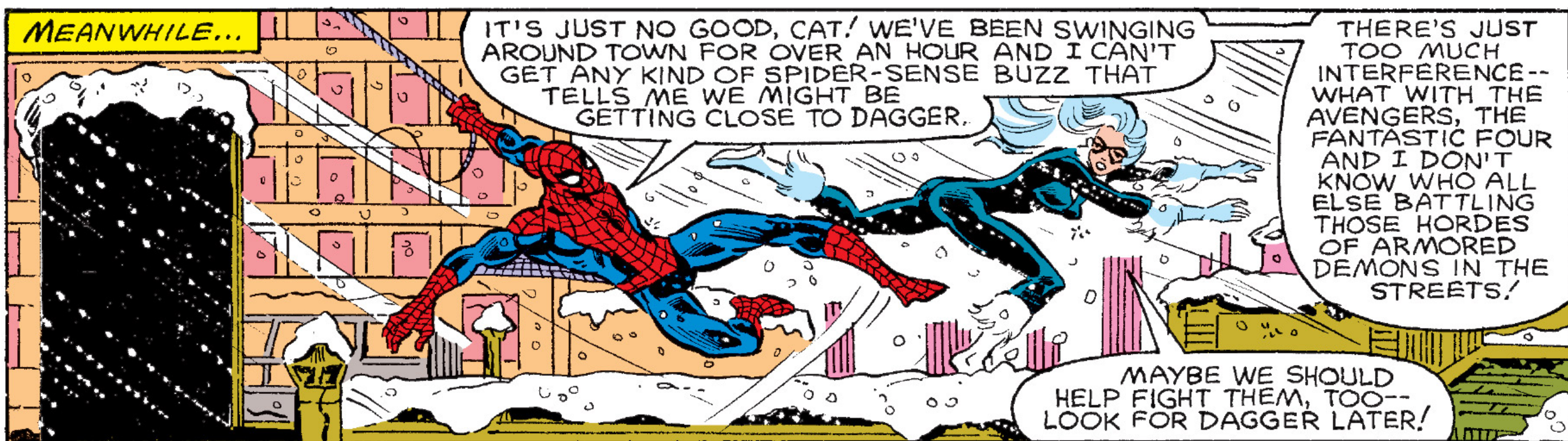
AM I NOT... *THE ANSWER!*

OF COURSE.





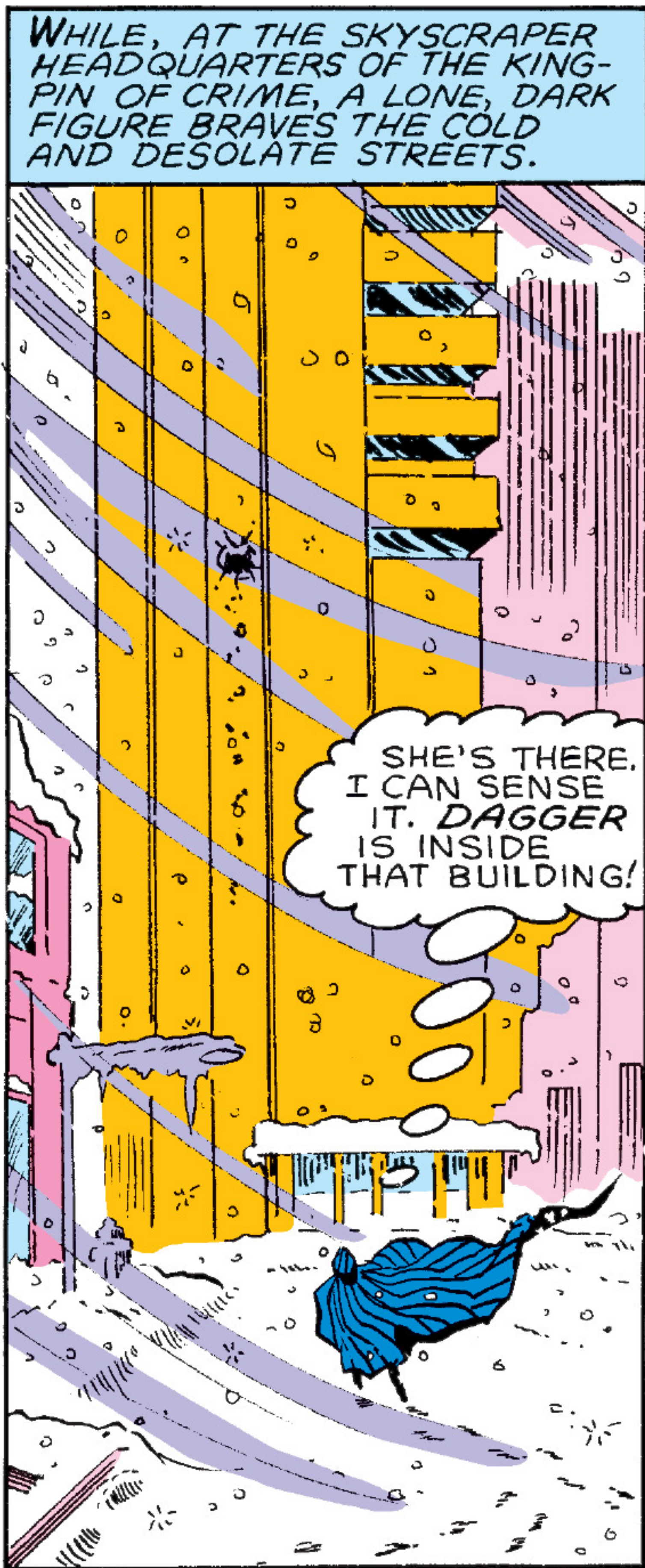






--I THINK WE'D BETTER GET GOING **RIGHT NOW!**

ALL RIGHT, BUT THIS ISN'T THE END OF IT!

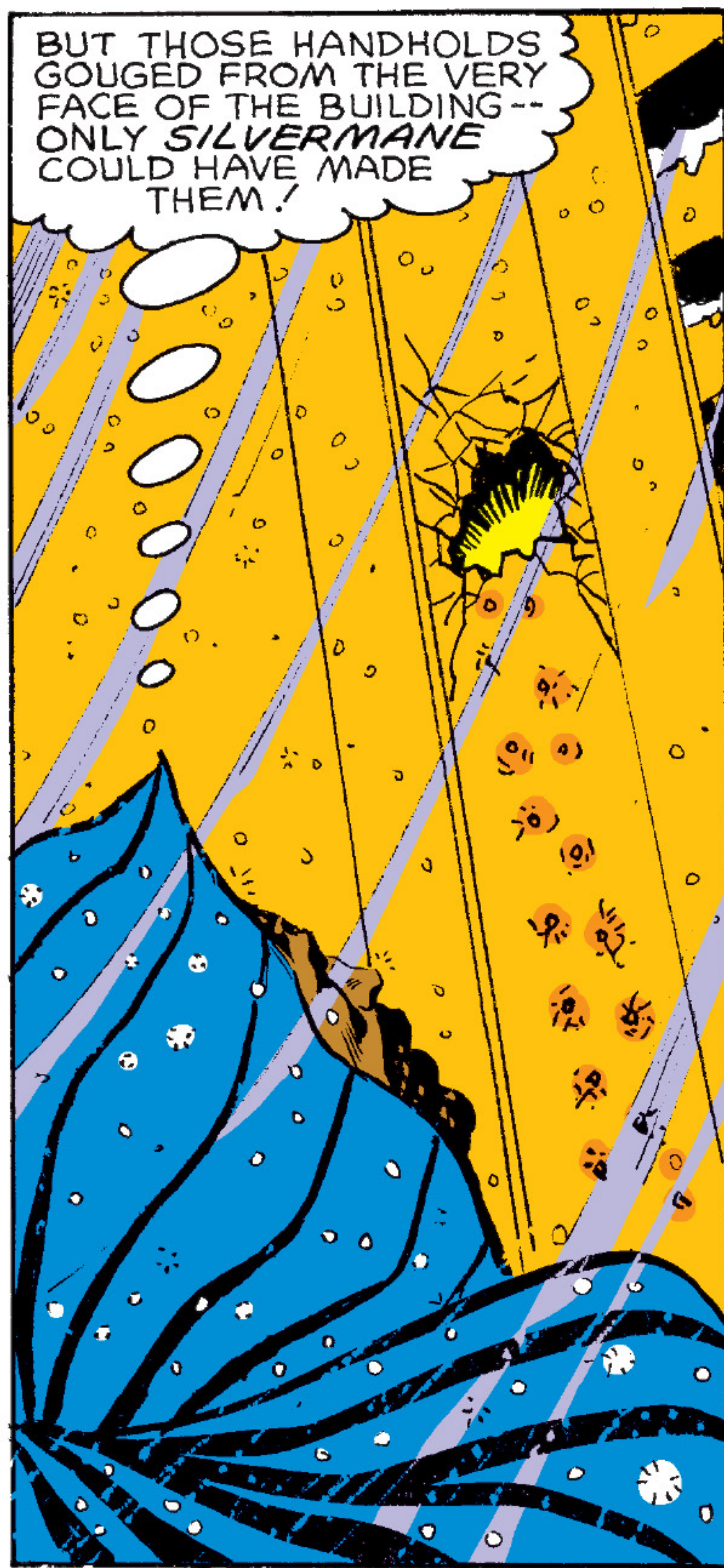


WHILE, AT THE SKYSCRAPER HEADQUARTERS OF THE KING-PIN OF CRIME, A LONE, DARK FIGURE BRAVES THE COLD AND DESOLATE STREETS.

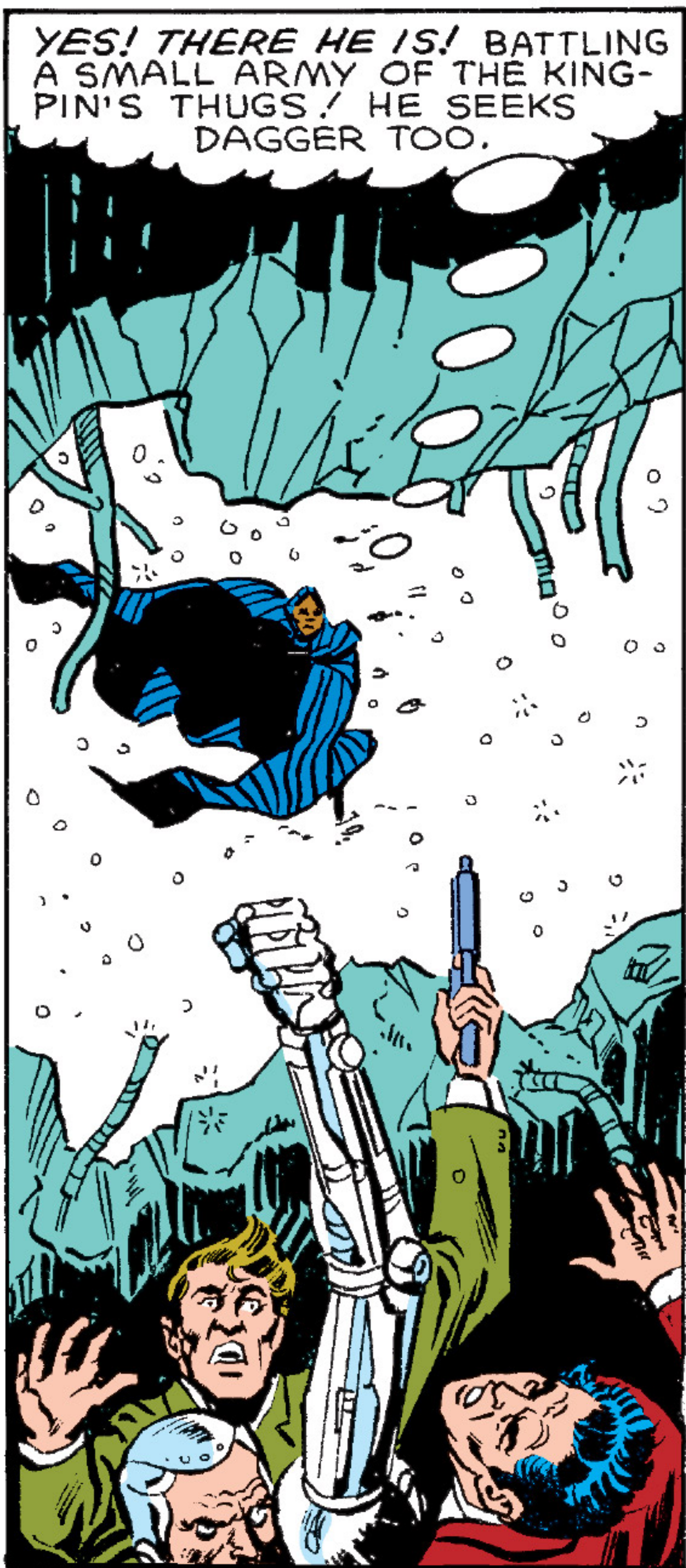
SHE'S THERE. I CAN SENSE IT. **DAGGER** IS INSIDE THAT BUILDING!



I WAS SO WEAKENED WHEN SILVERMANE TORE LOOSE FROM ME THAT I DARED NOT USE MY WANING ENERGIES TO TELEPORT MYSELF HERE. I HAD TO FOLLOW DAGGER'S EMANATIONS ON FOOT.



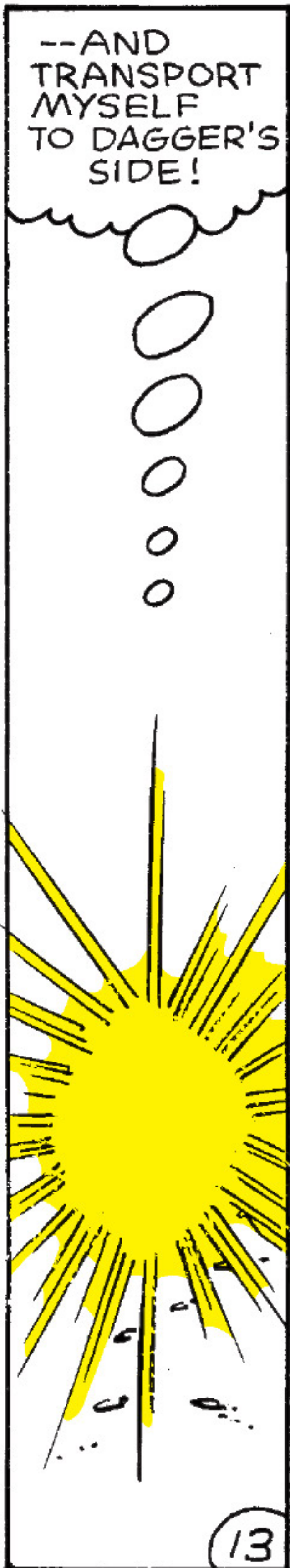
BUT THOSE HANDHOLDS GOUGED FROM THE VERY FACE OF THE BUILDING-- ONLY **SILVERMANE** COULD HAVE MADE THEM!



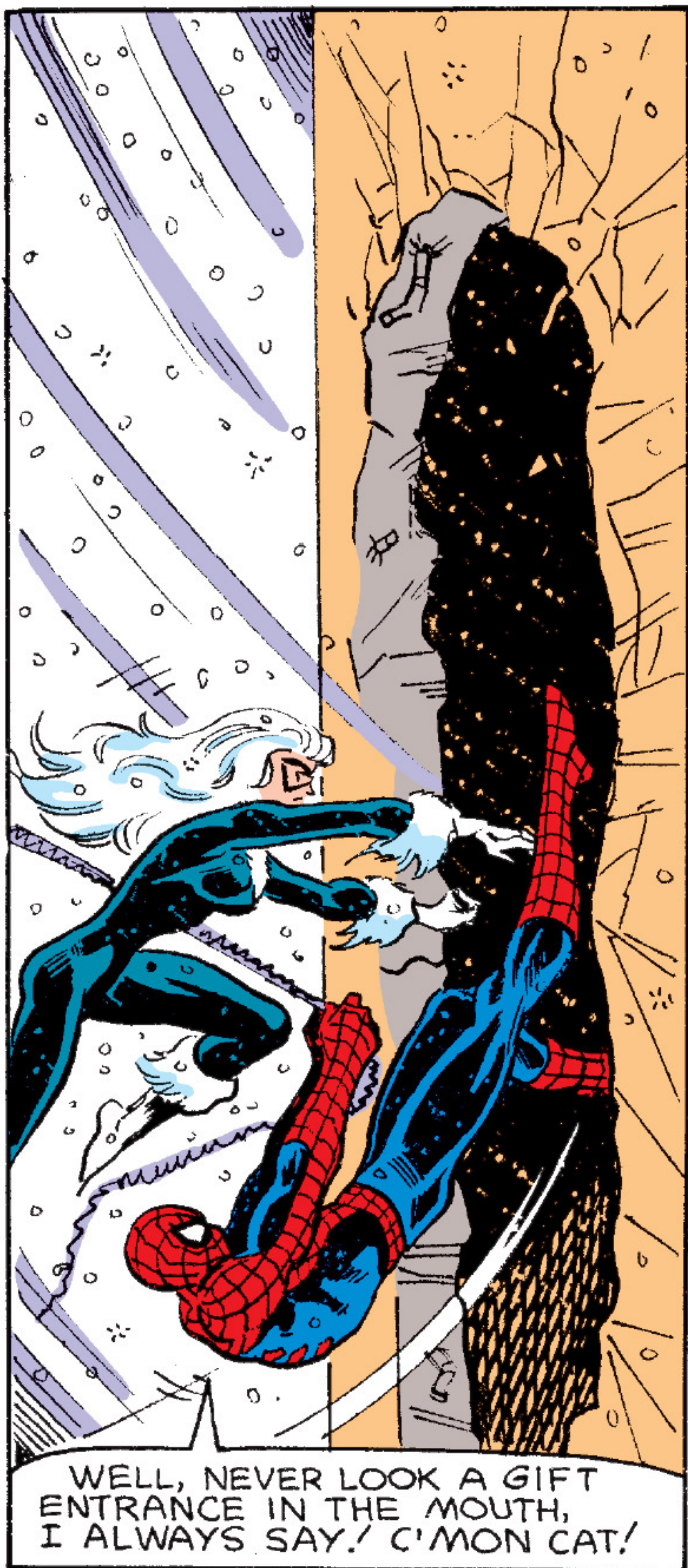
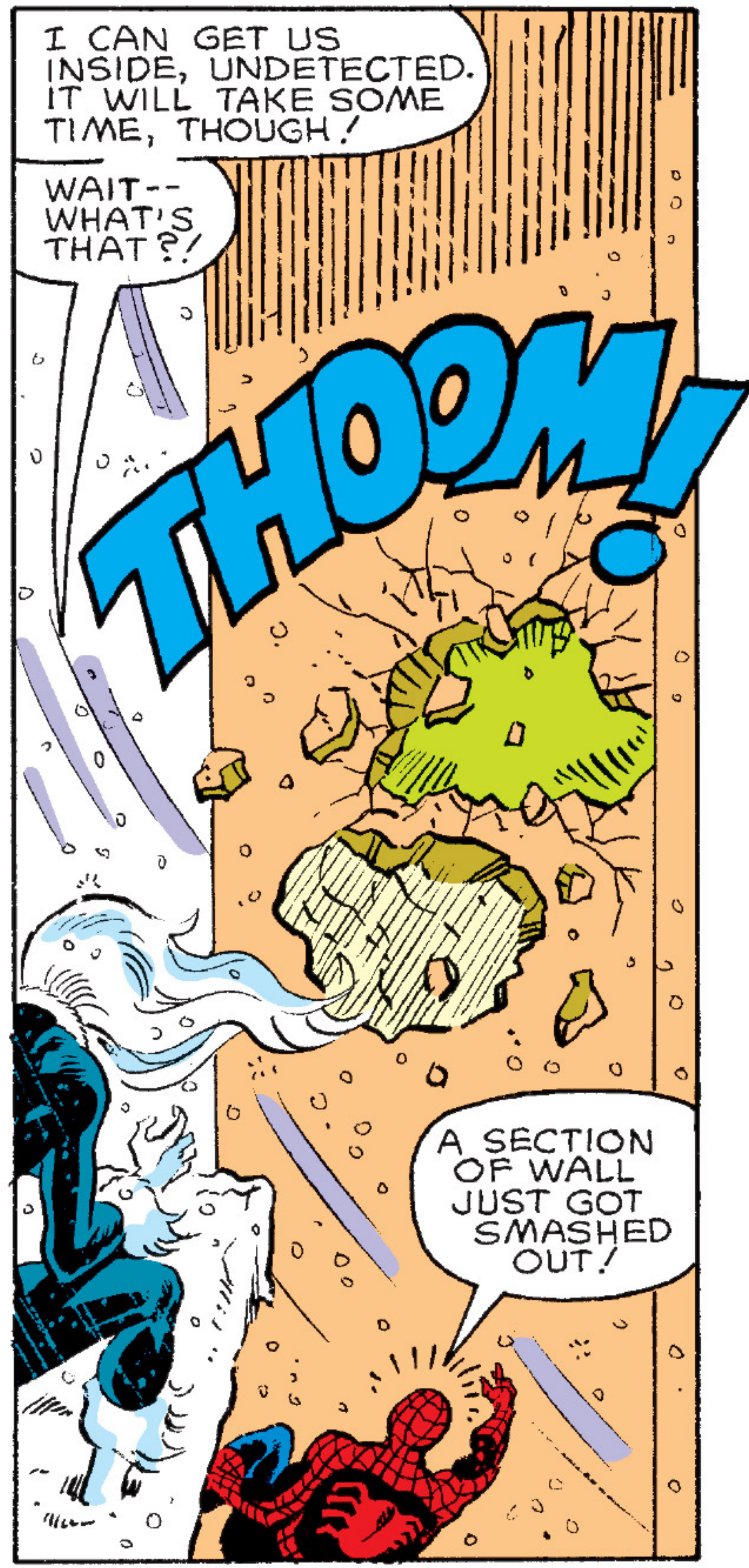
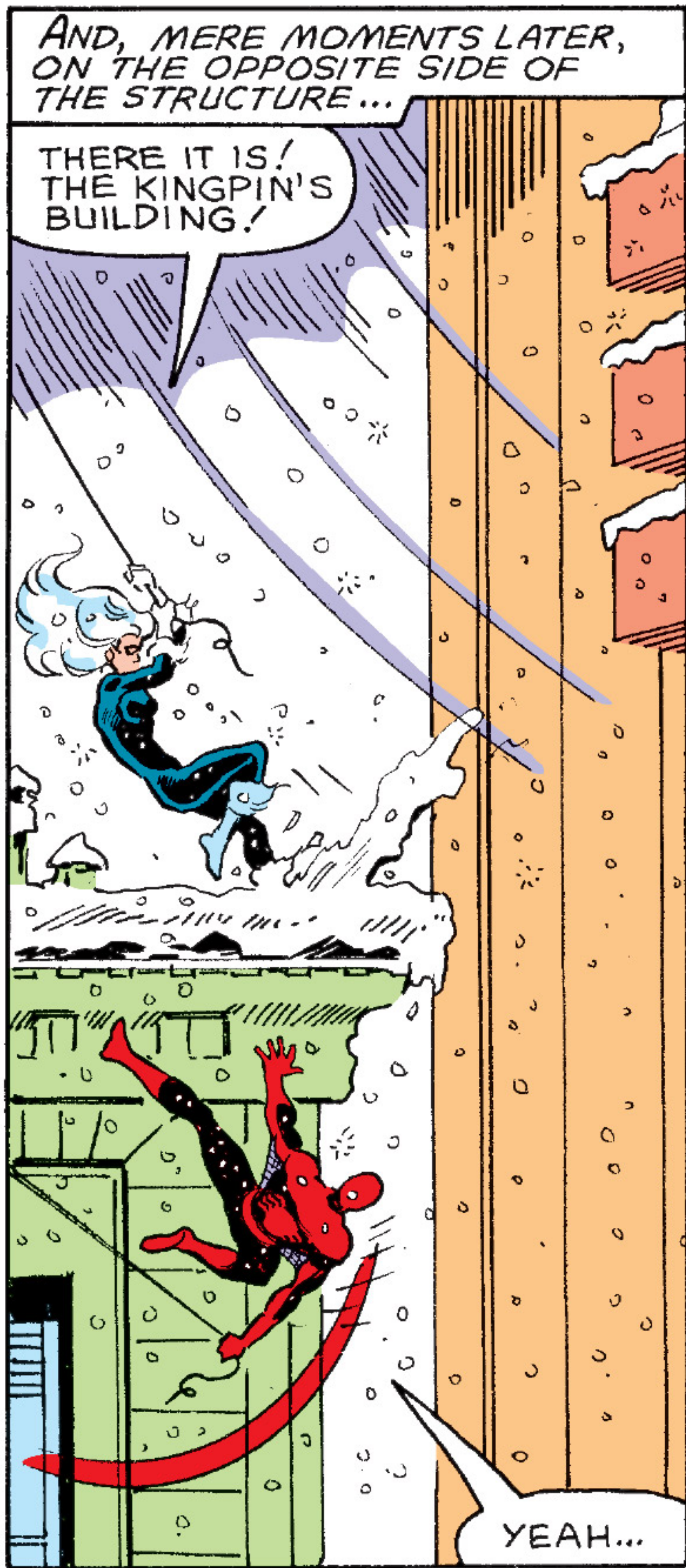
YES! THERE HE IS! BATTLING A SMALL ARMY OF THE KING-PIN'S THUGS! HE SEEKS **DAGGER** TOO.

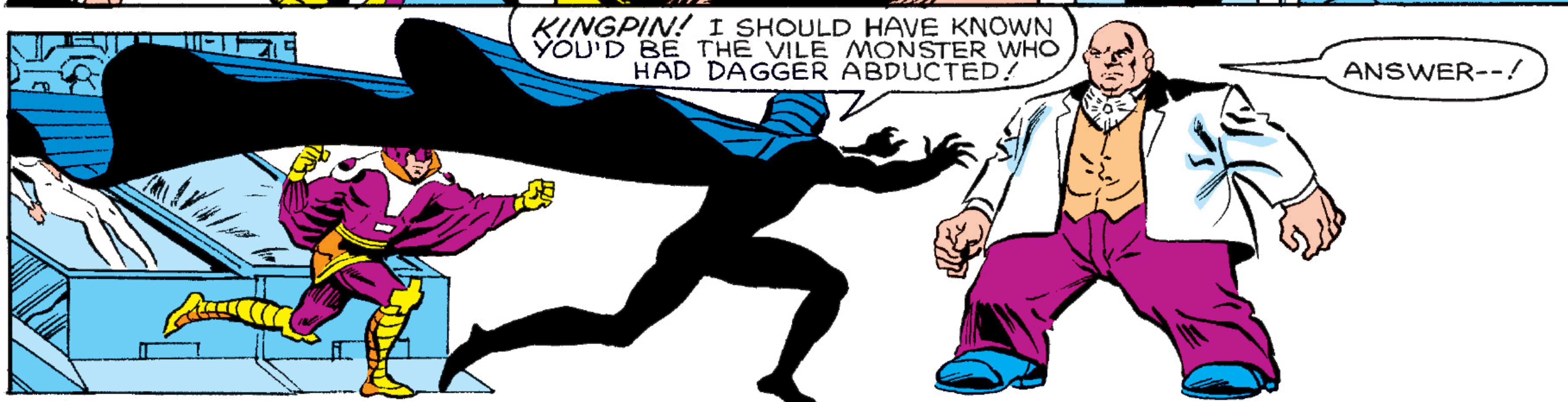
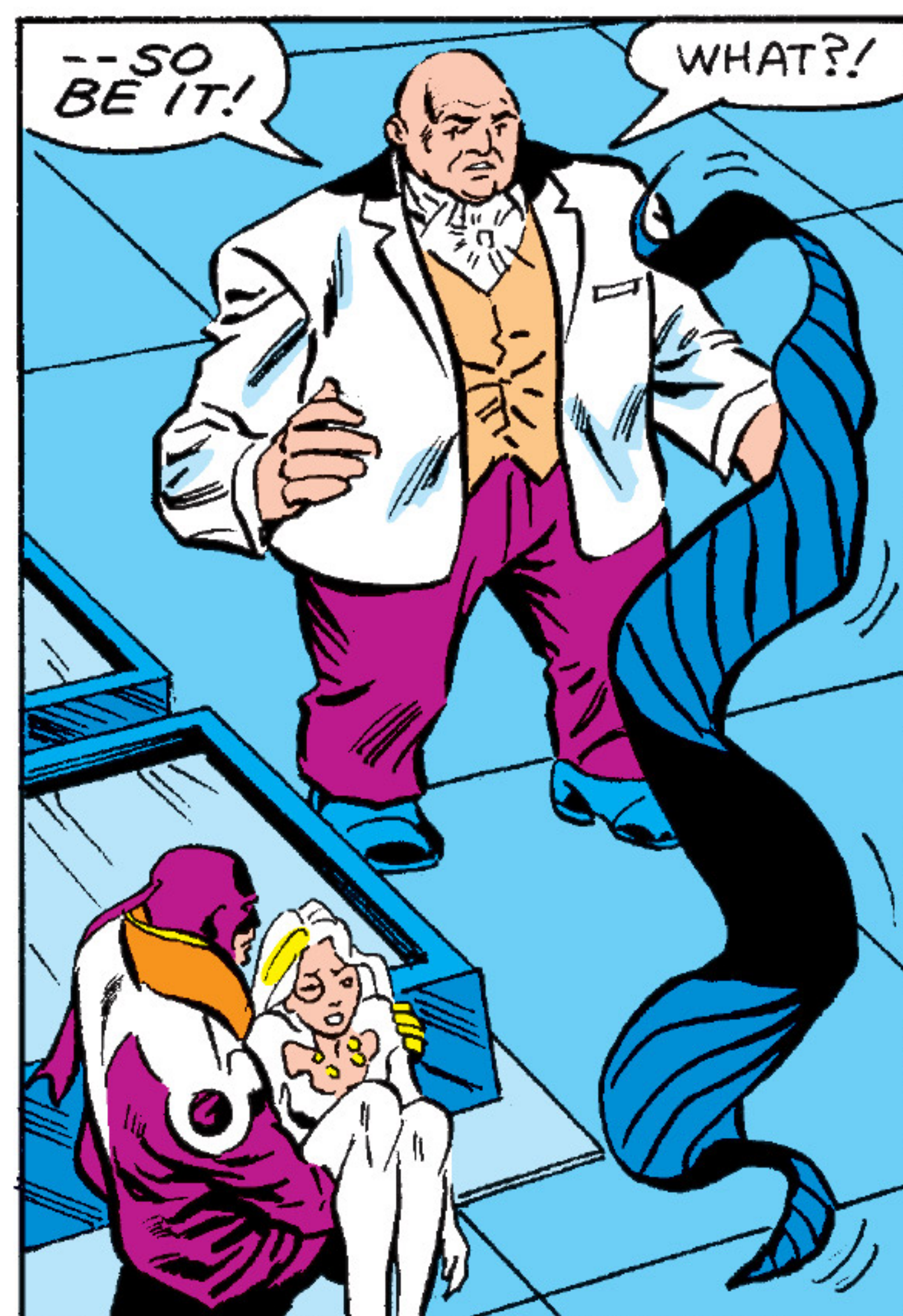
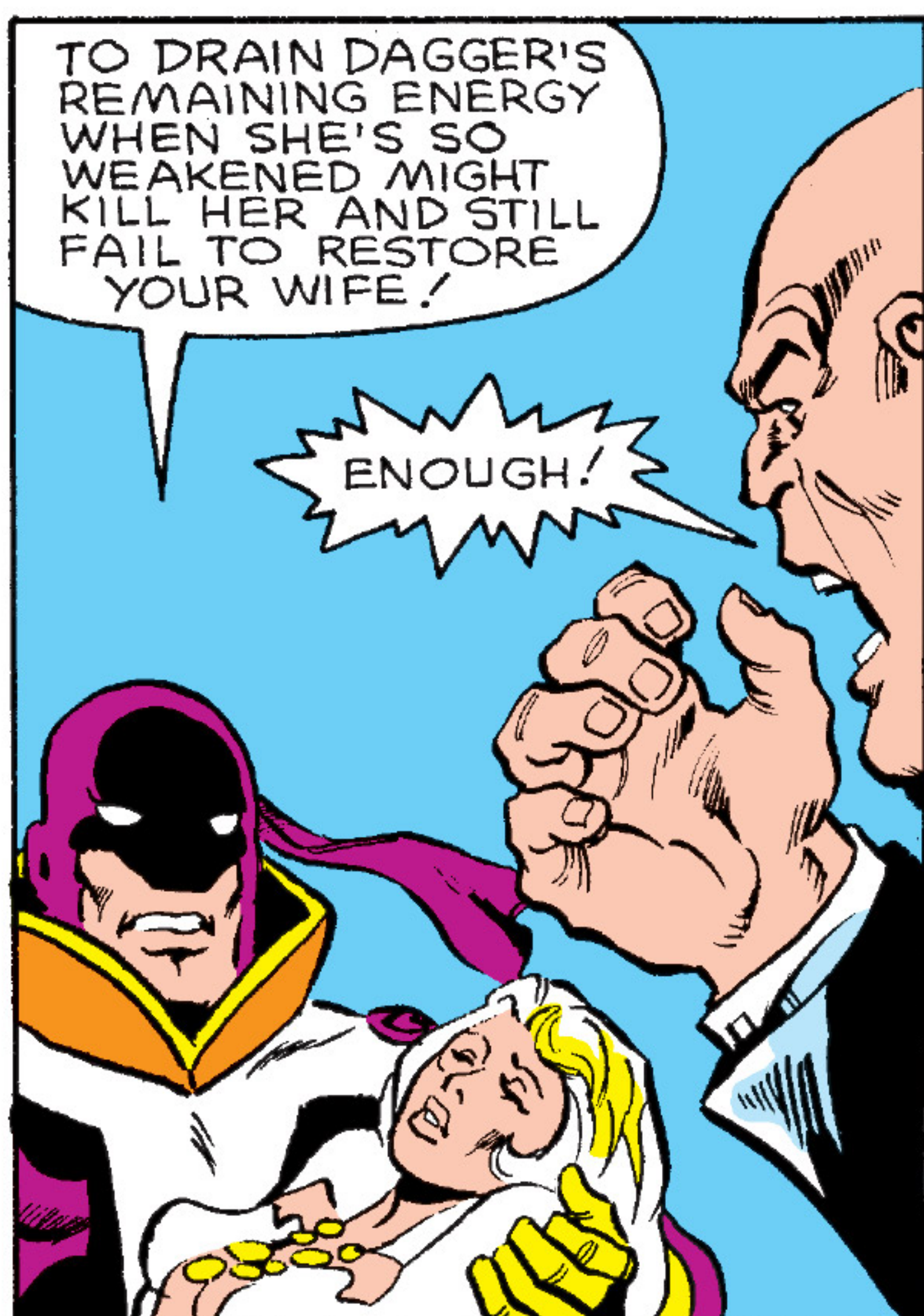
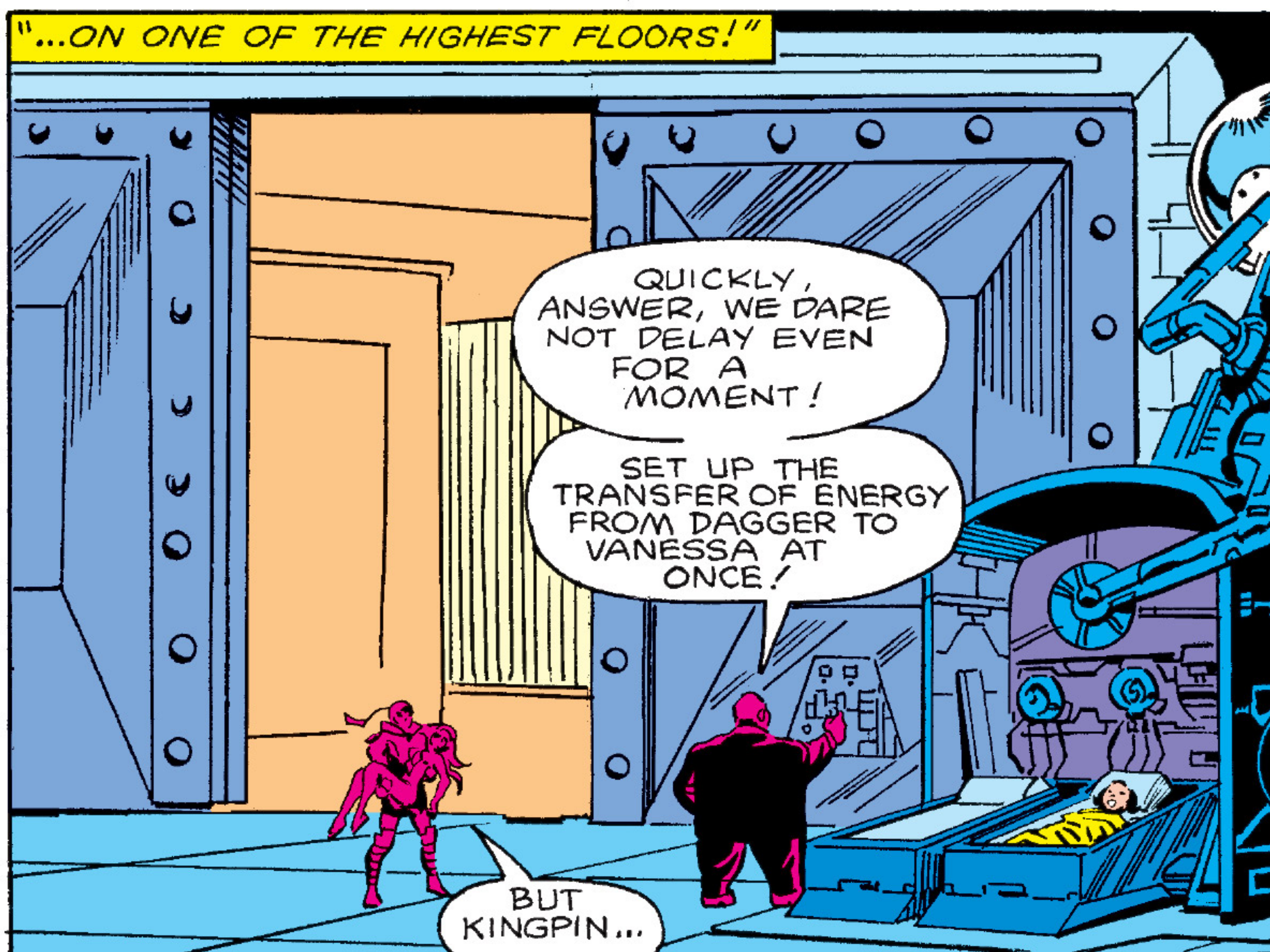


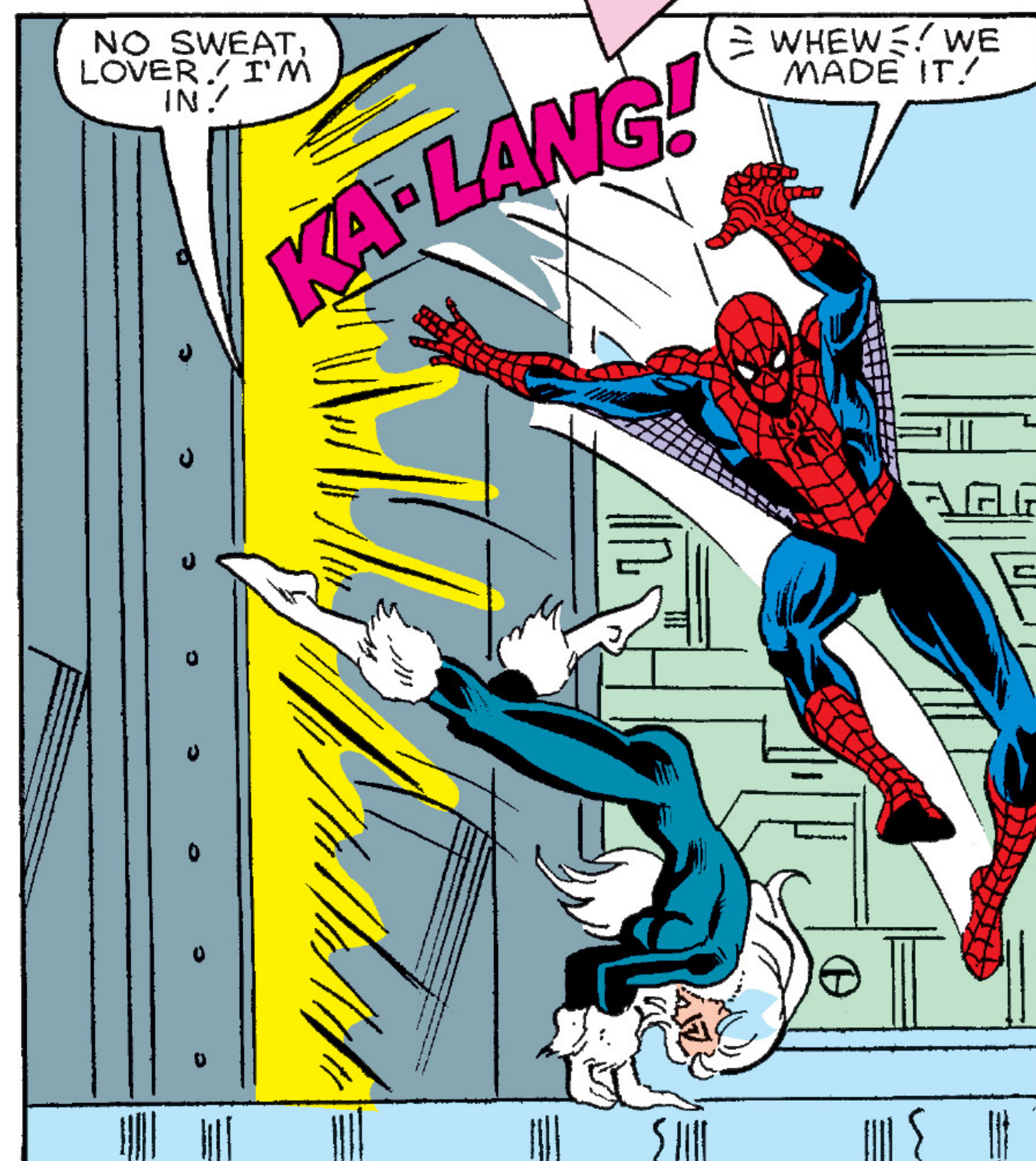
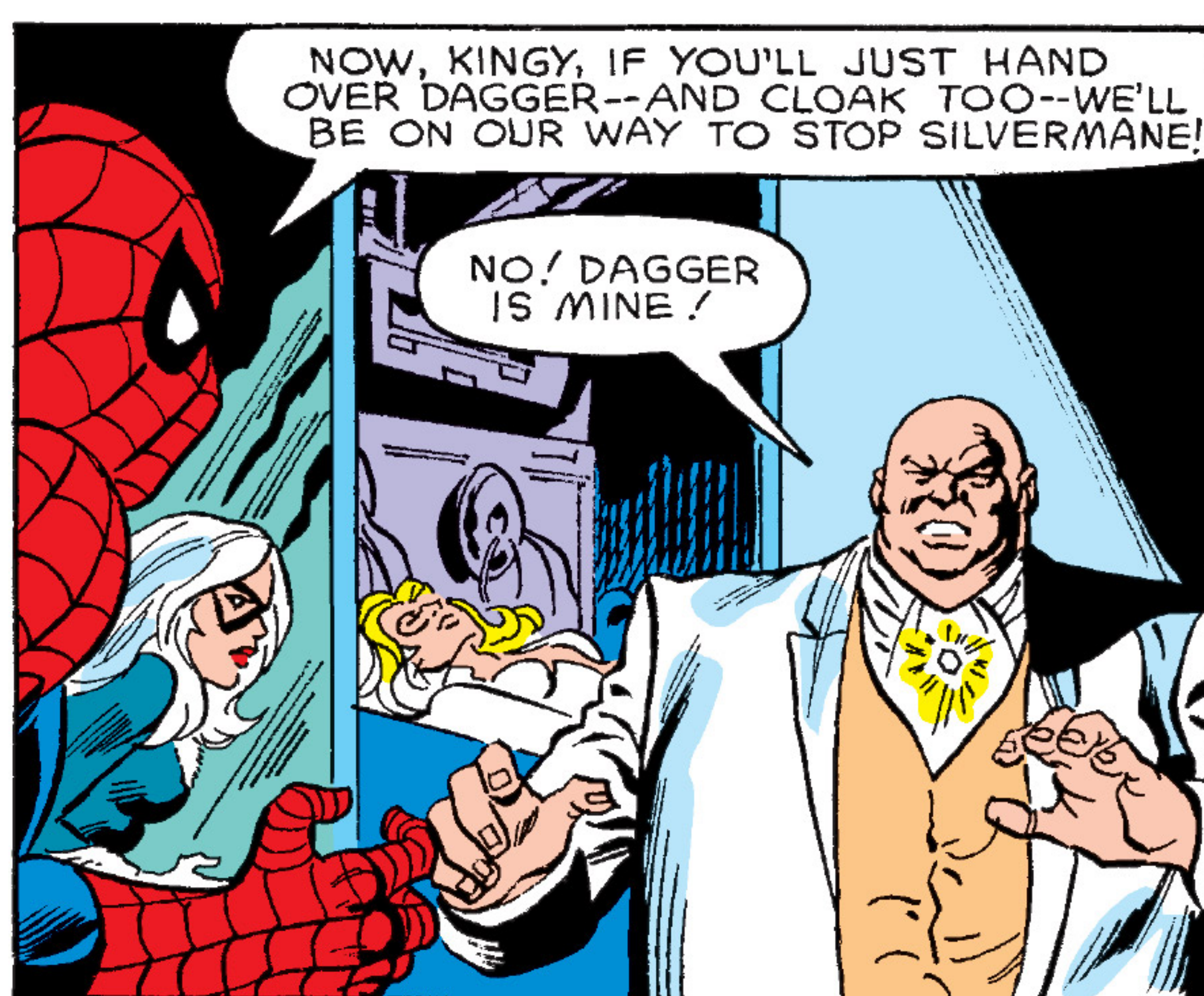
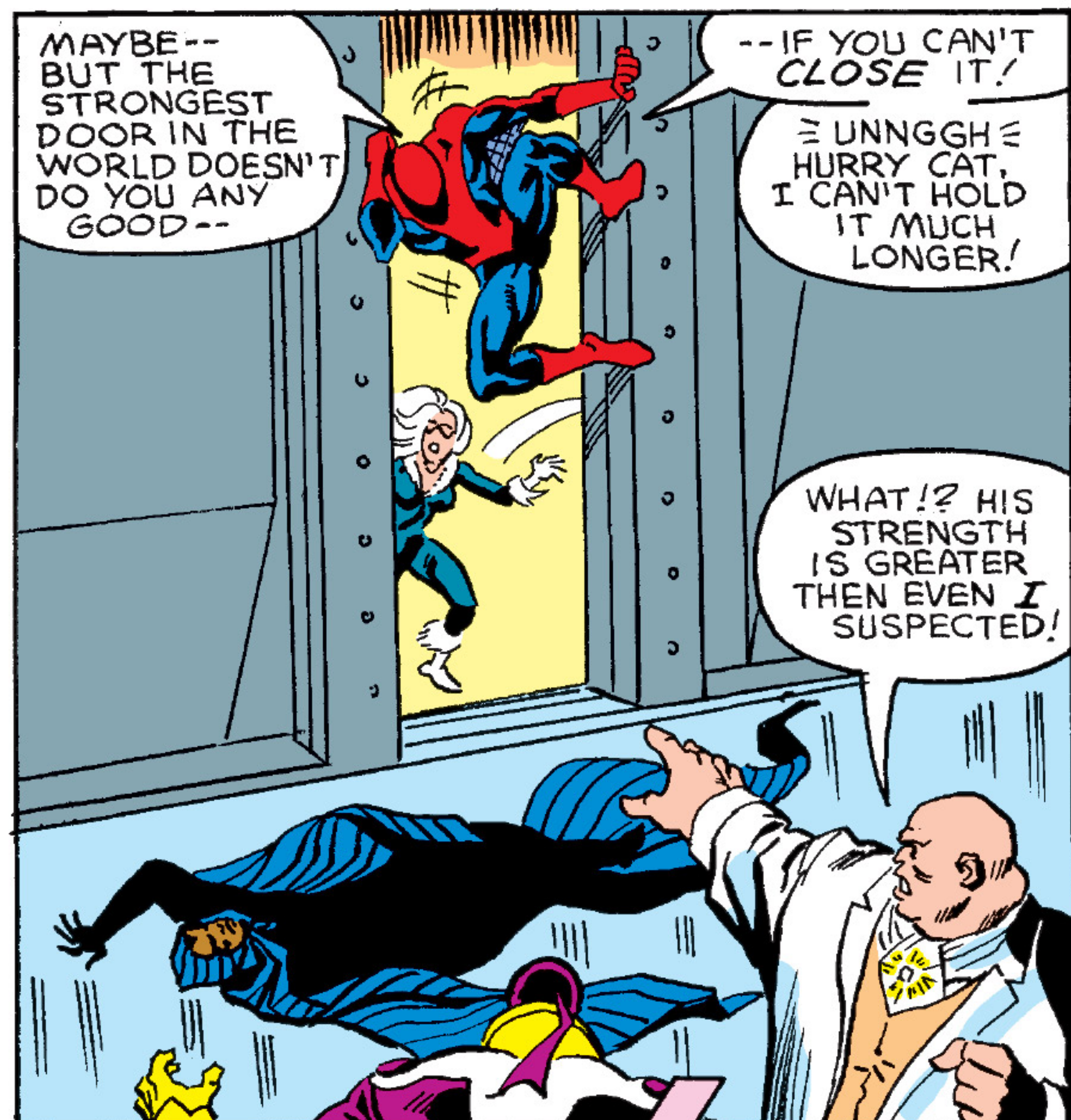
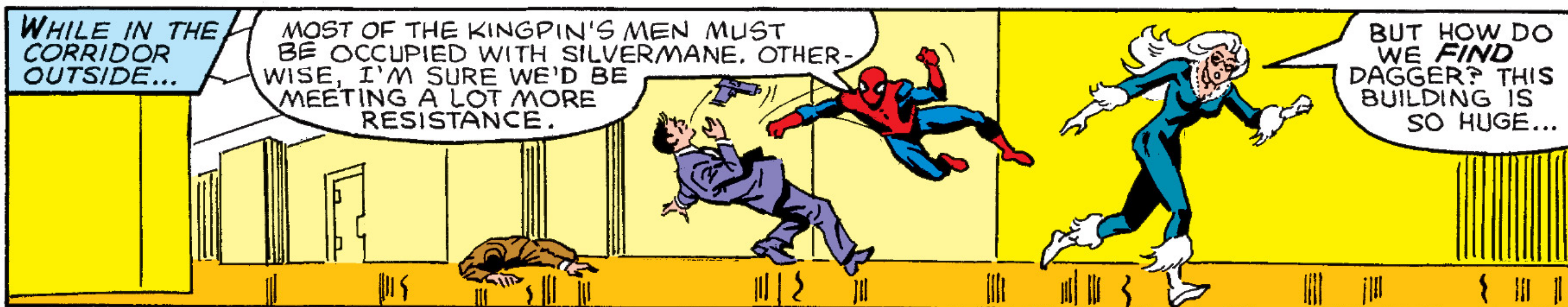
BUT HE MUST NOT REACH HER FIRST! I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO MUSTER MY LAST RESERVES OF STRENGTH, WRAP MY CLOAK ABOUT ME--

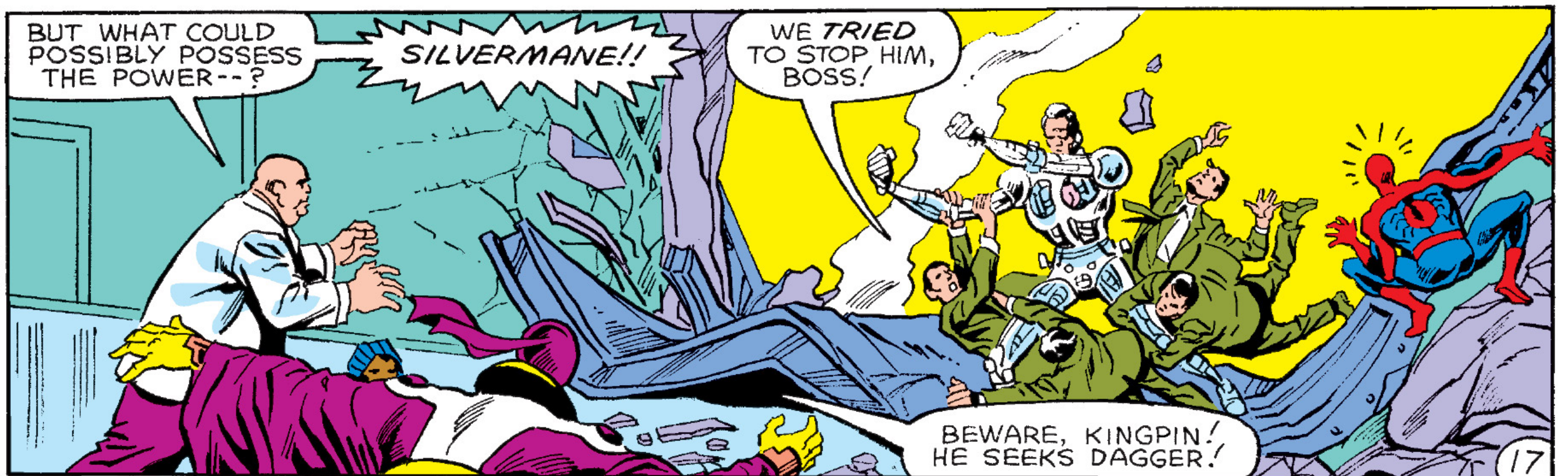
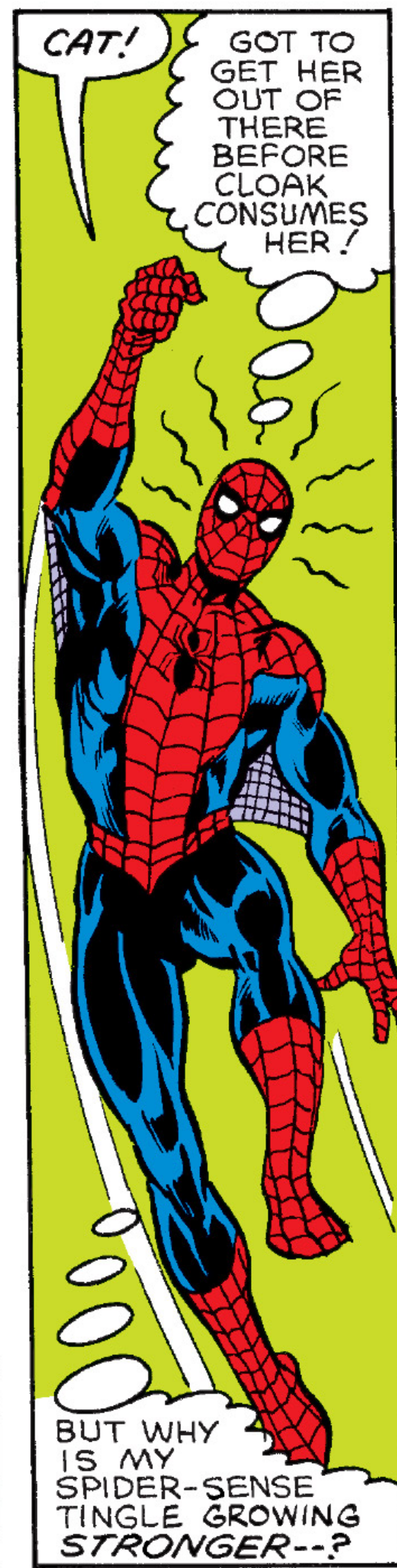
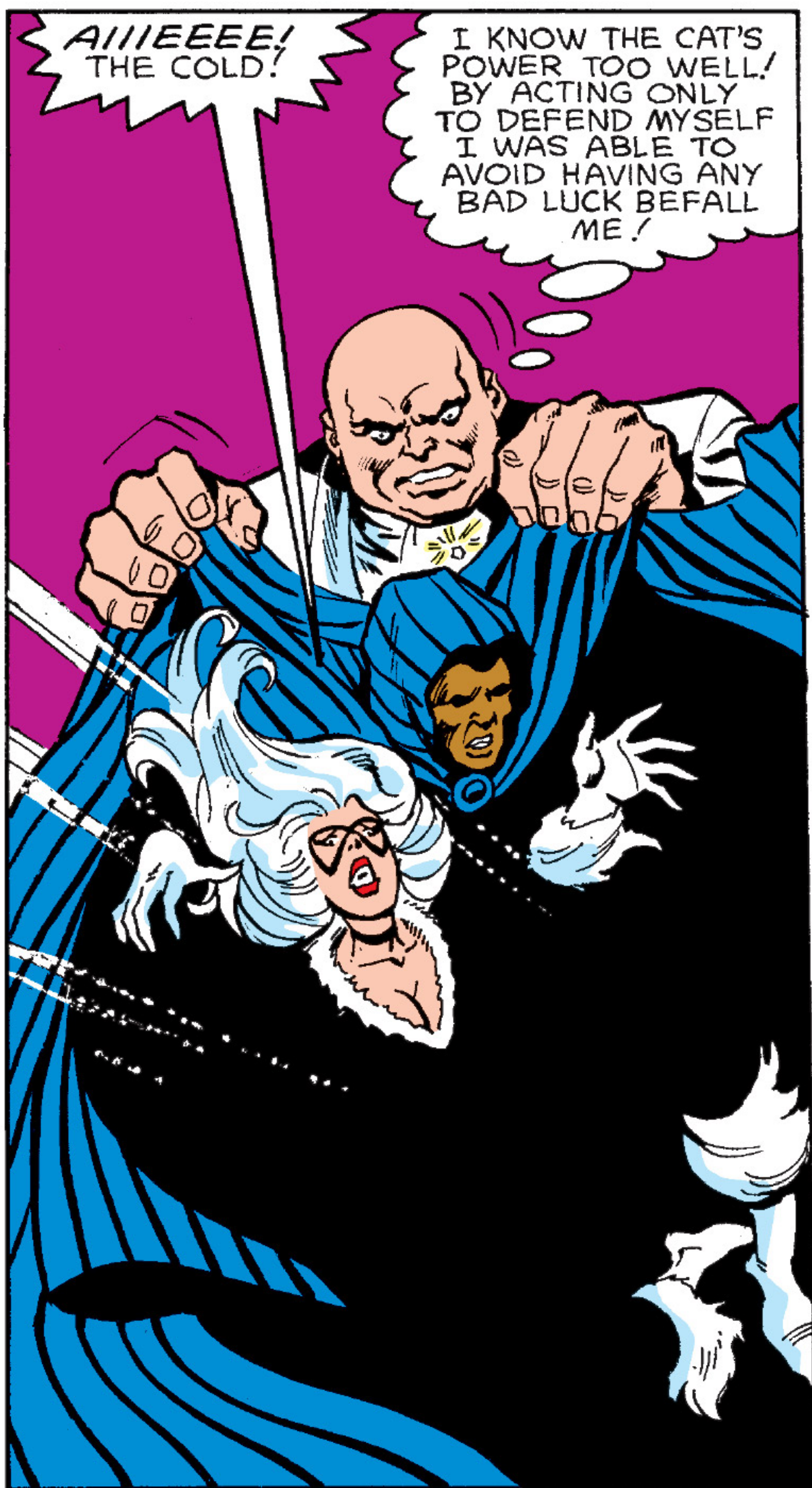
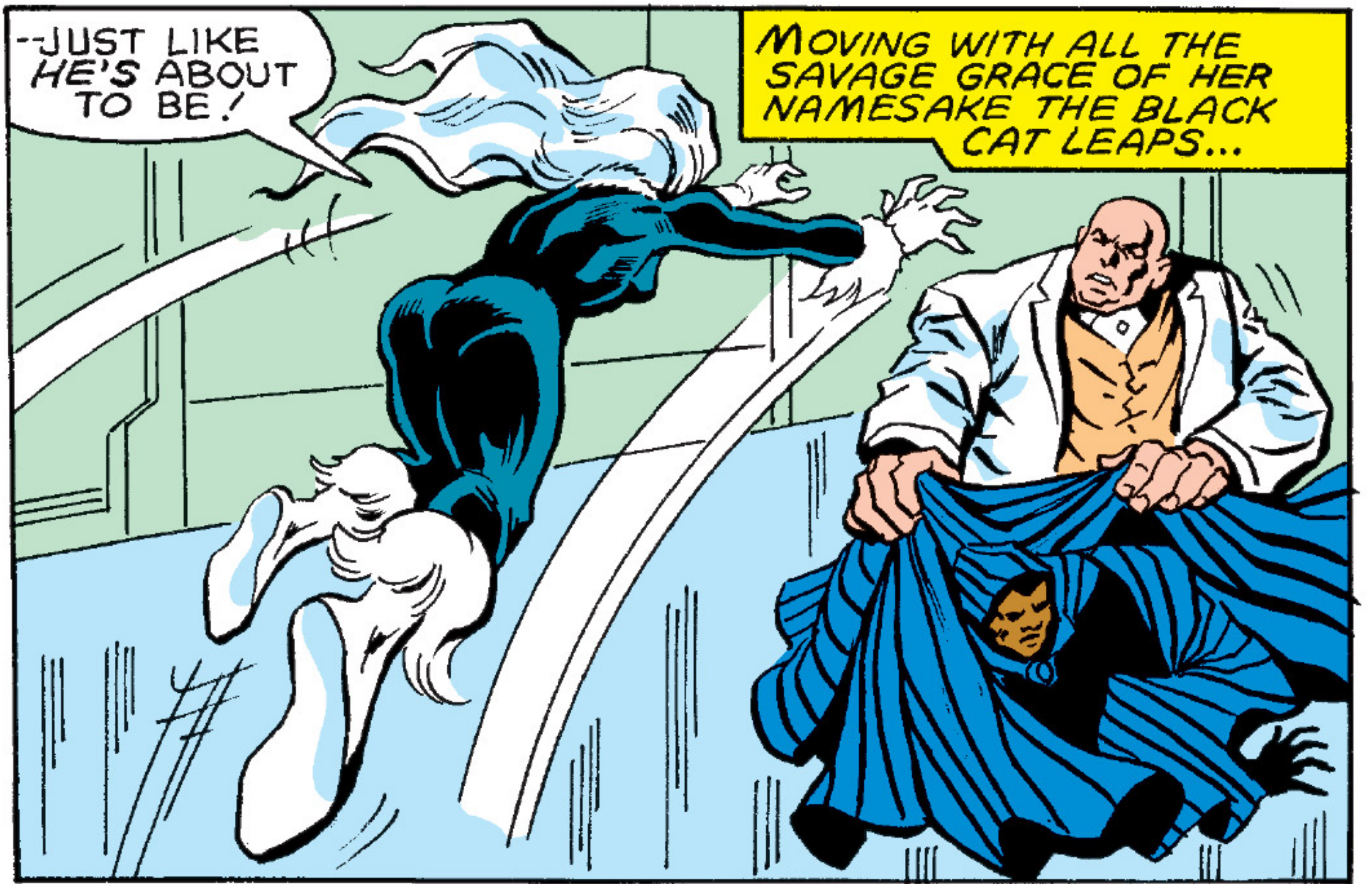
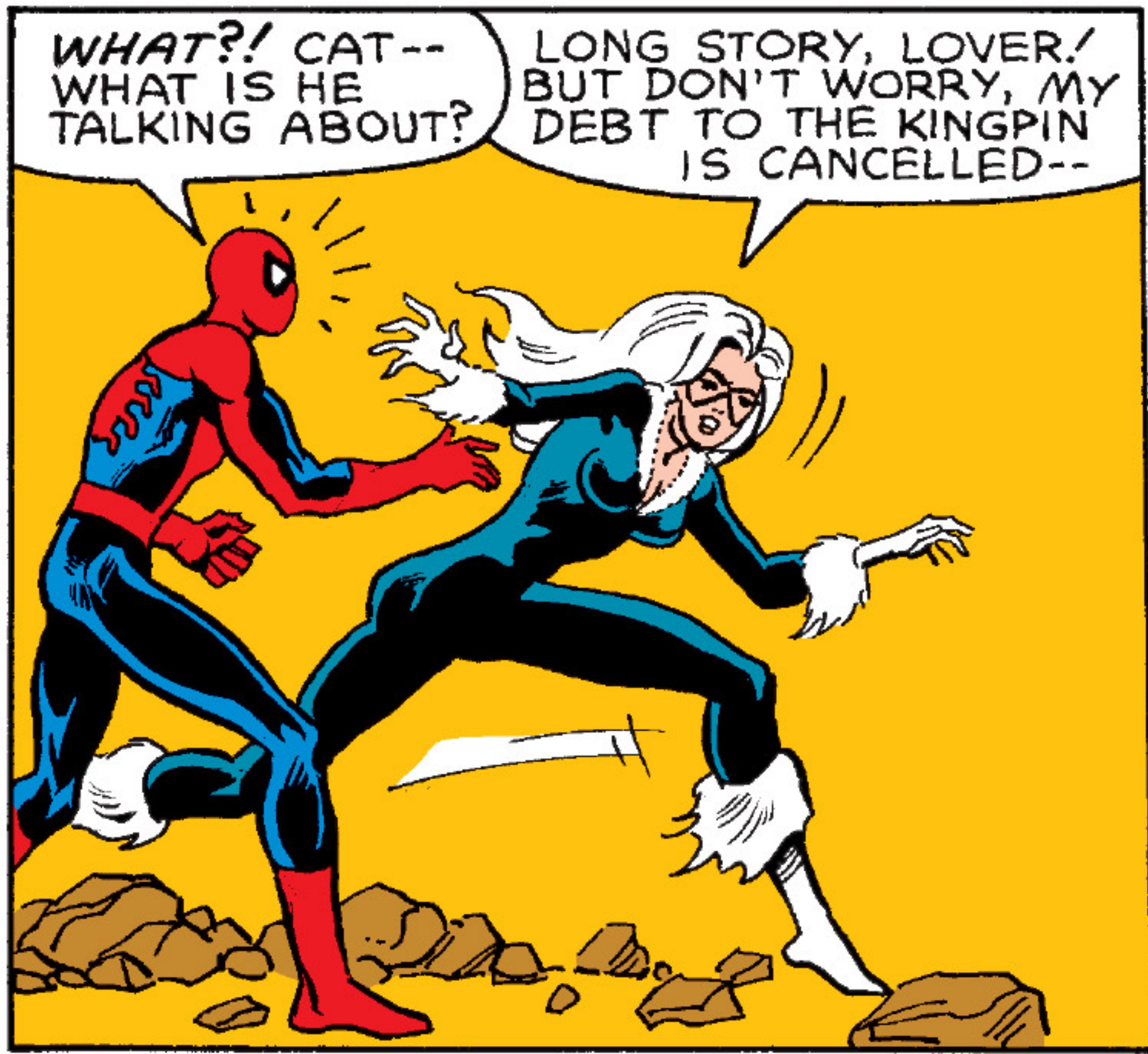


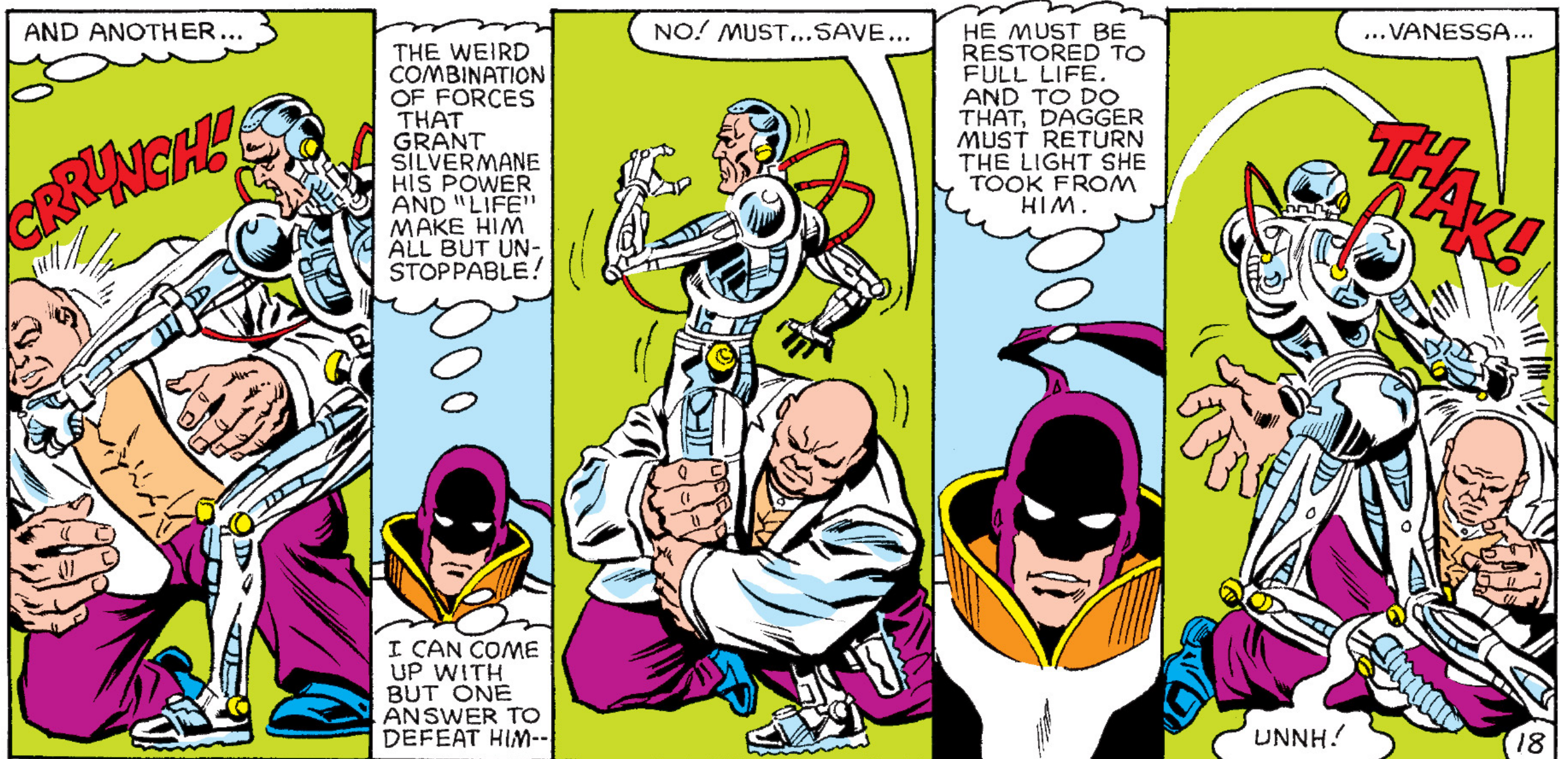
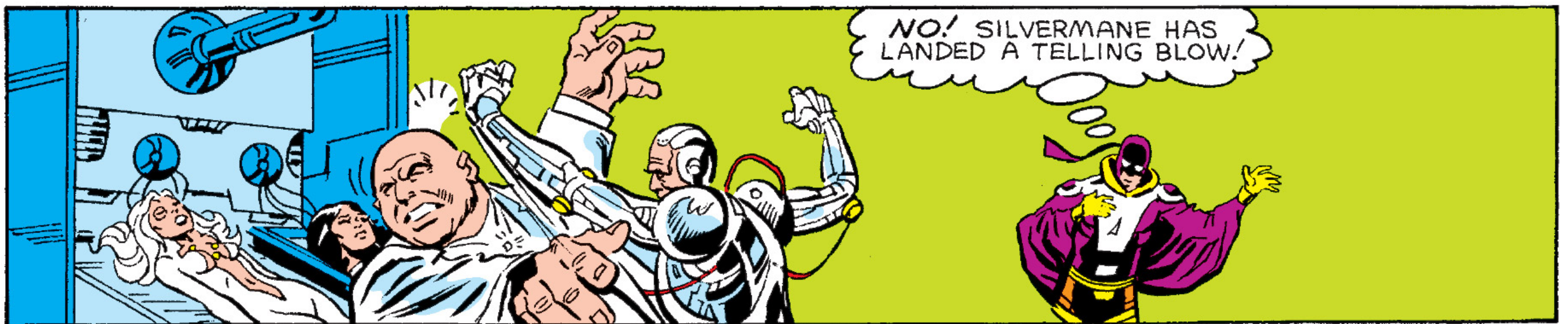
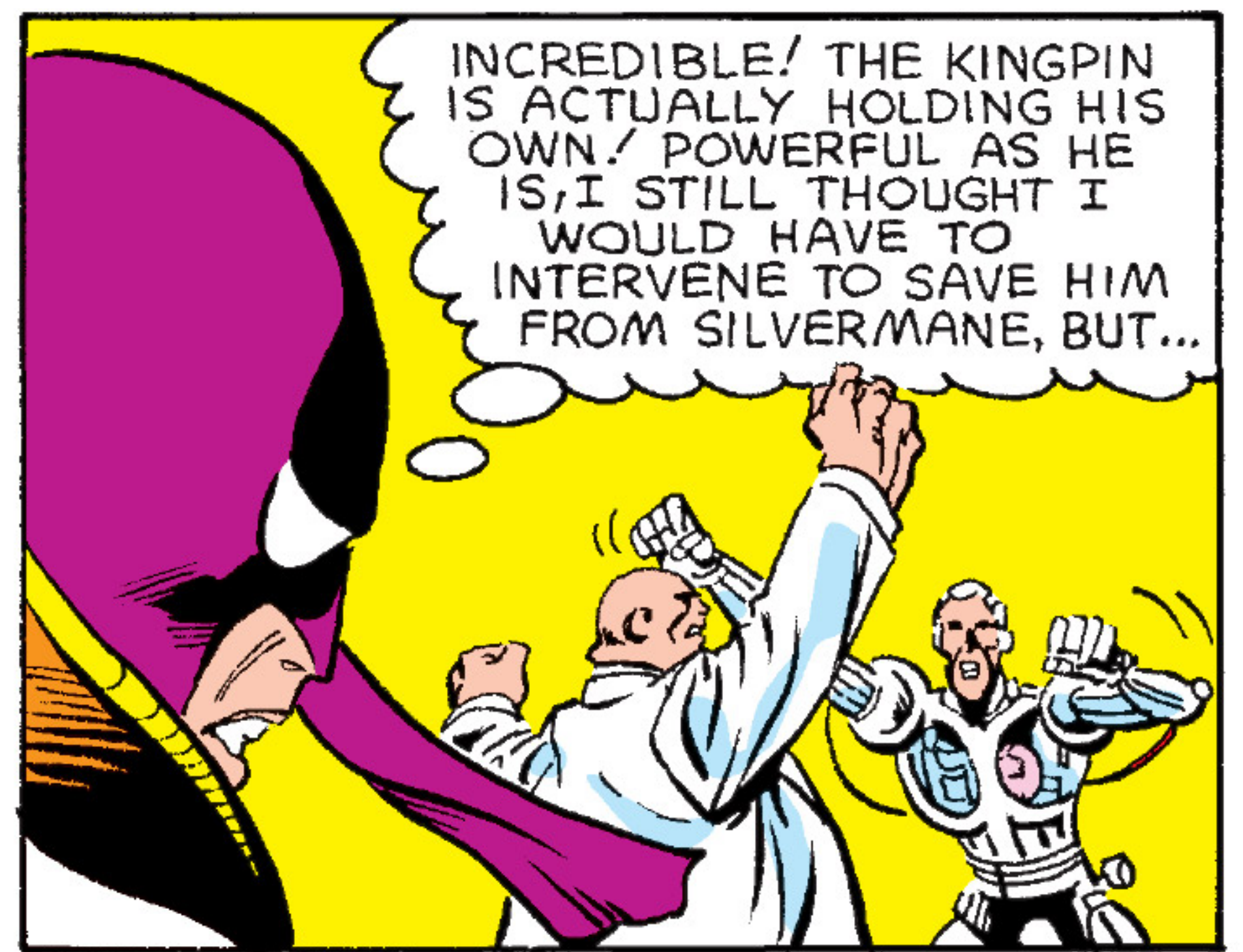
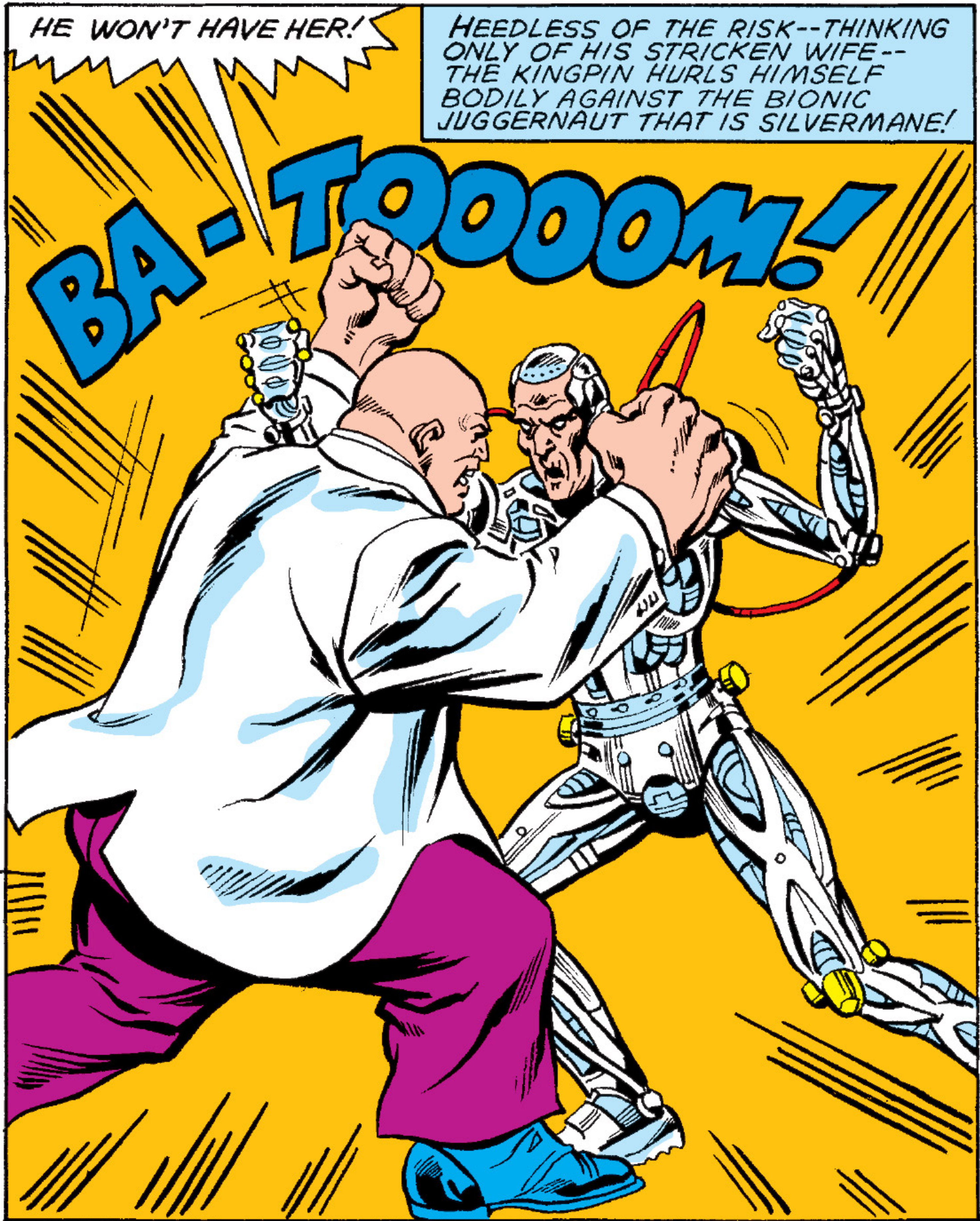
--AND TRANSPORT MYSELF TO **DAGGER'S** SIDE!

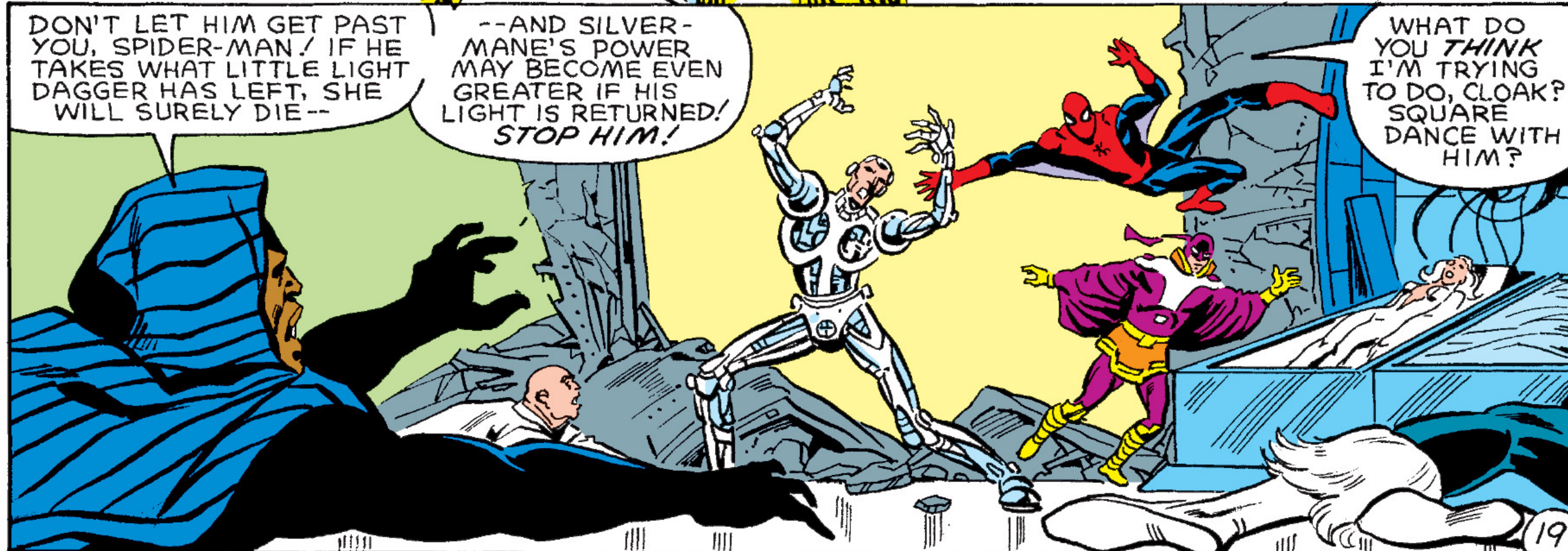
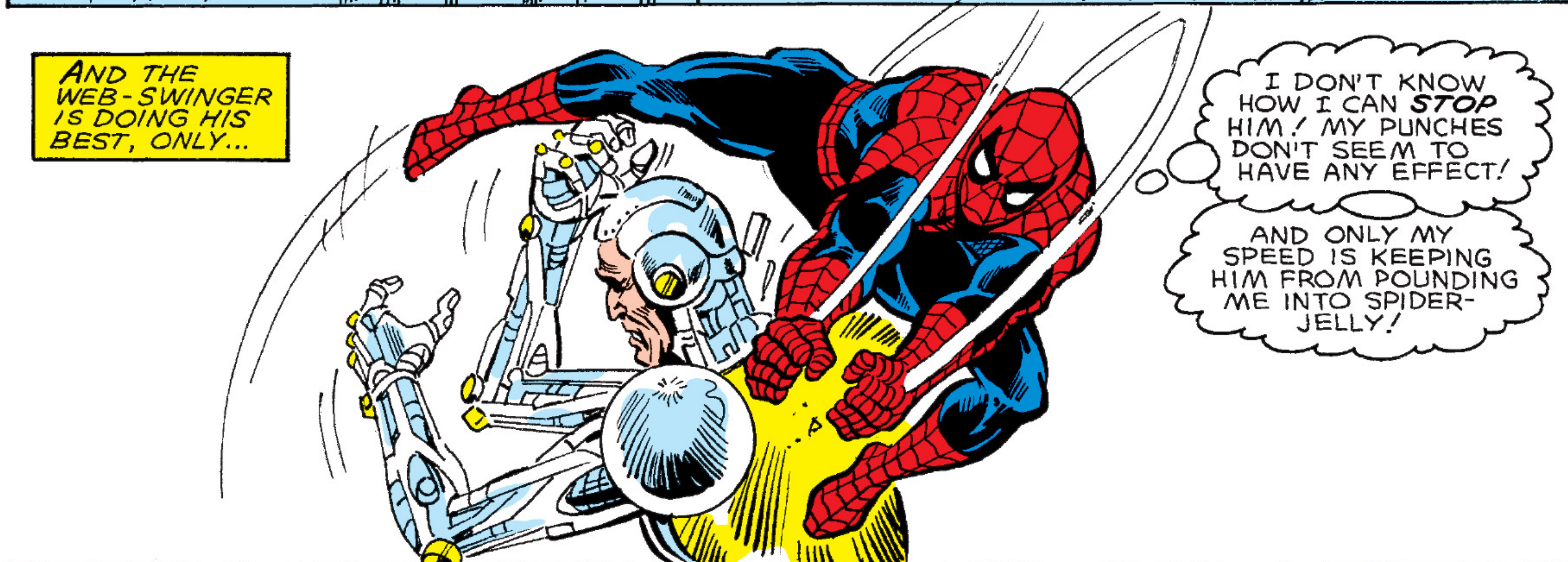
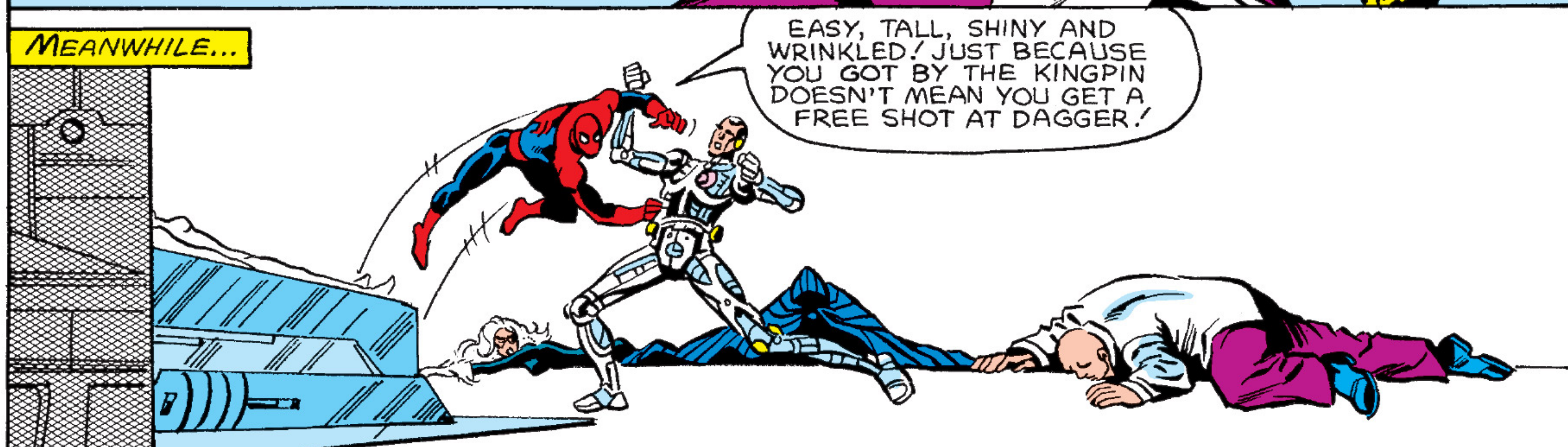
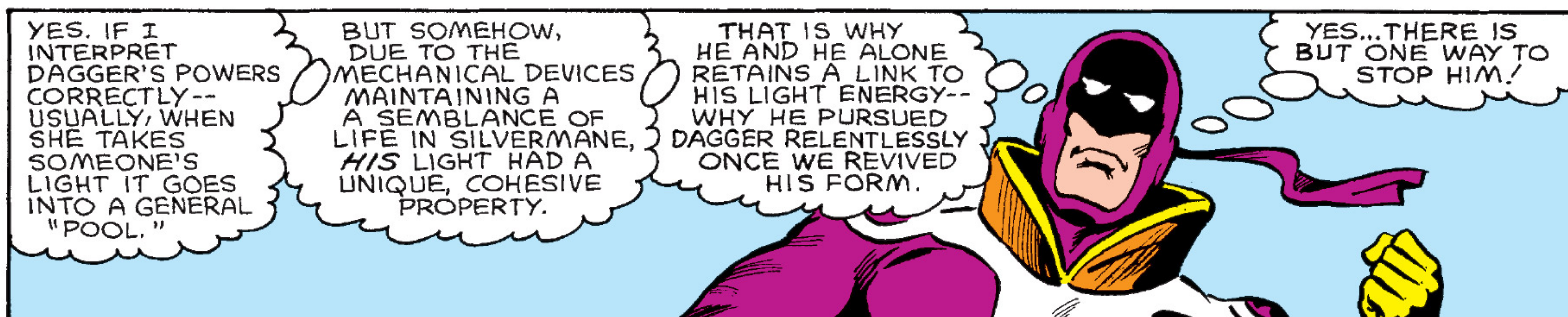


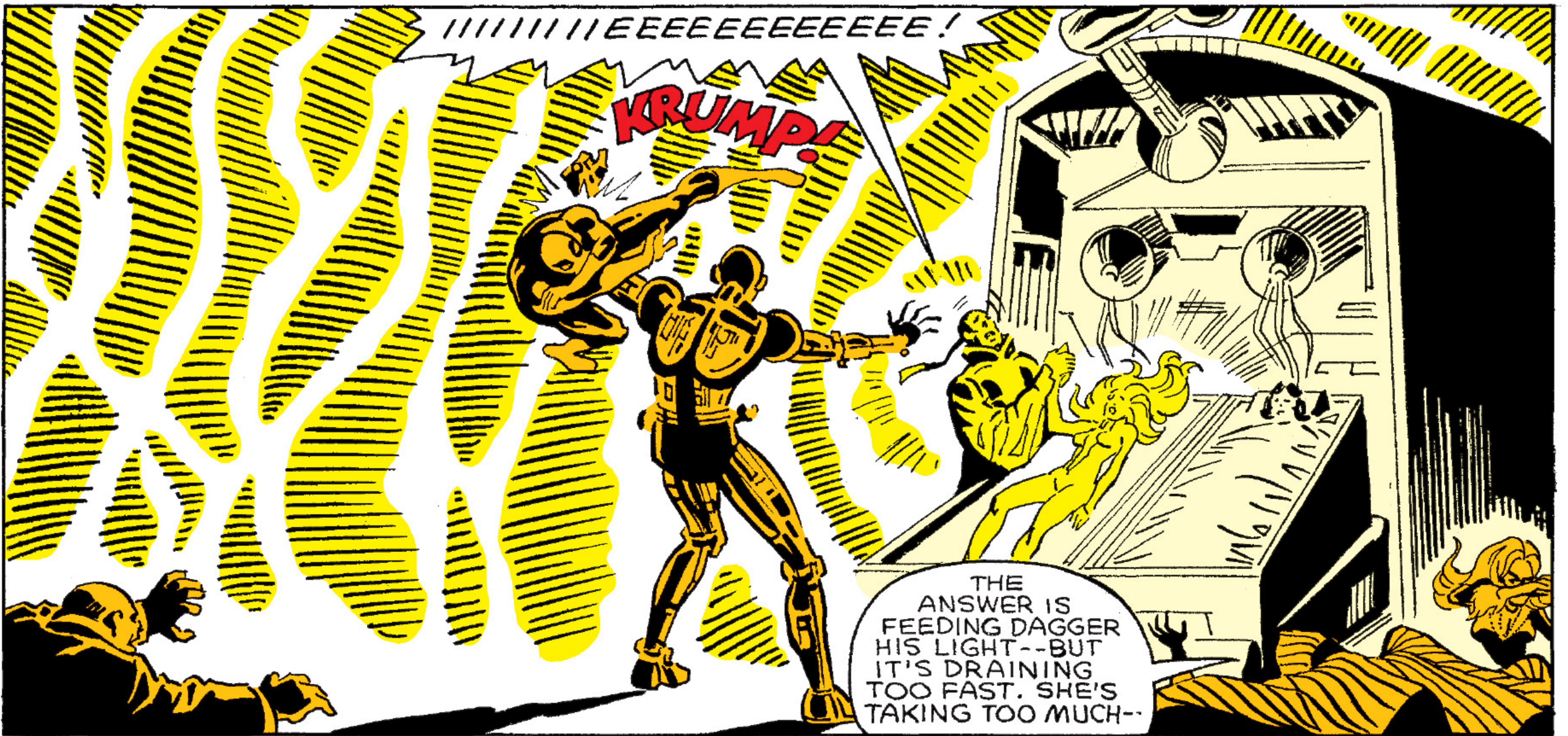
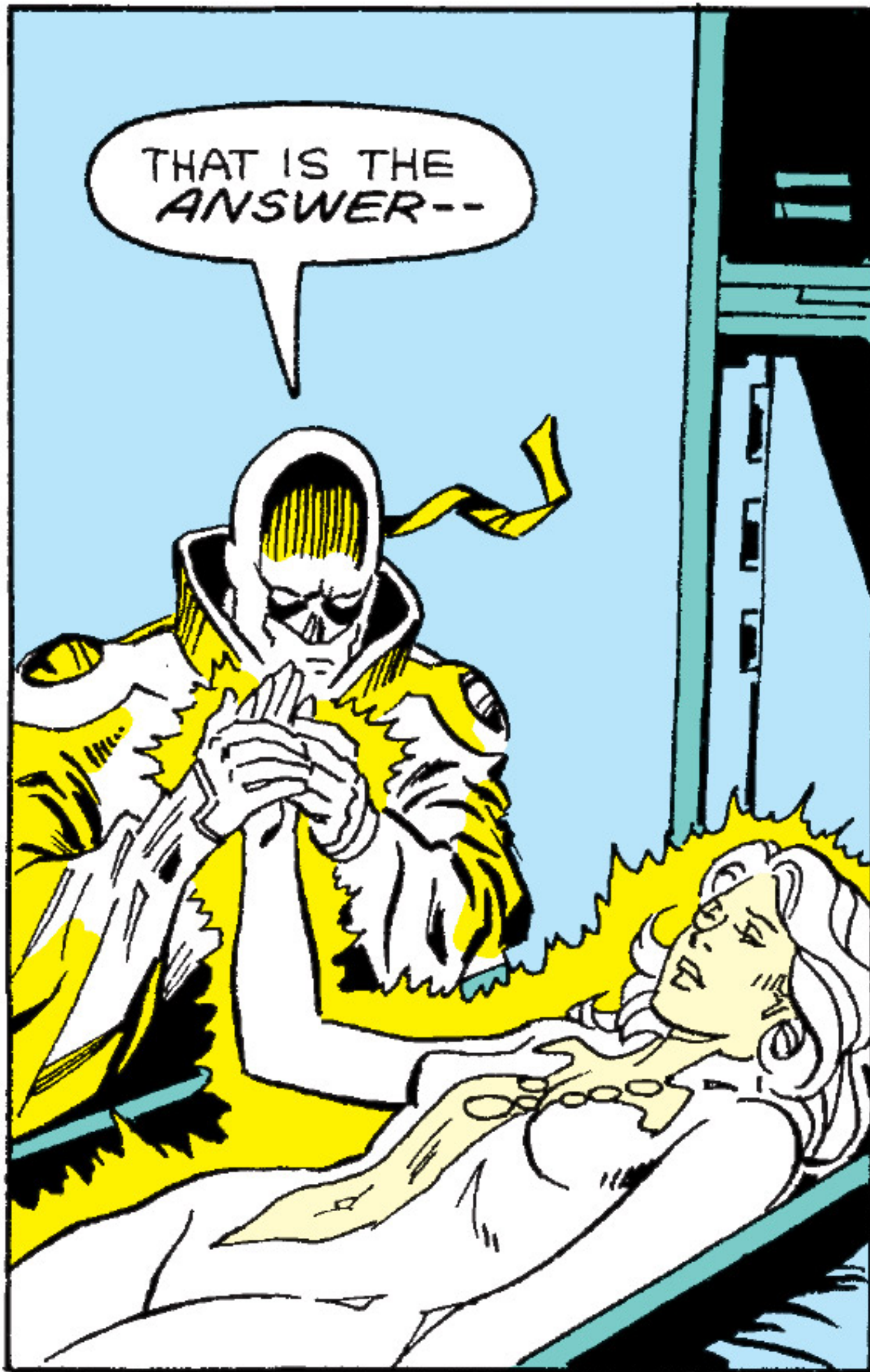
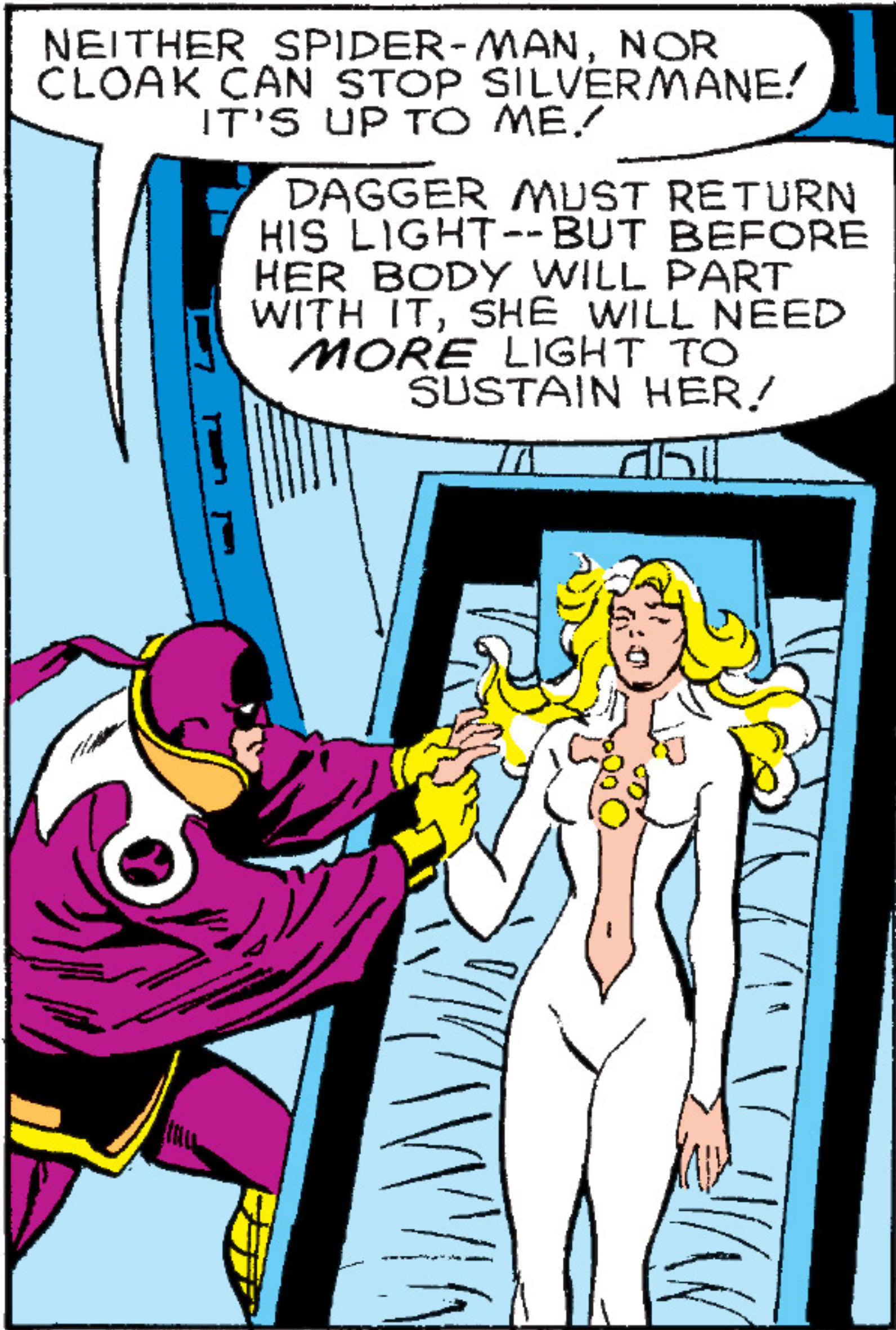


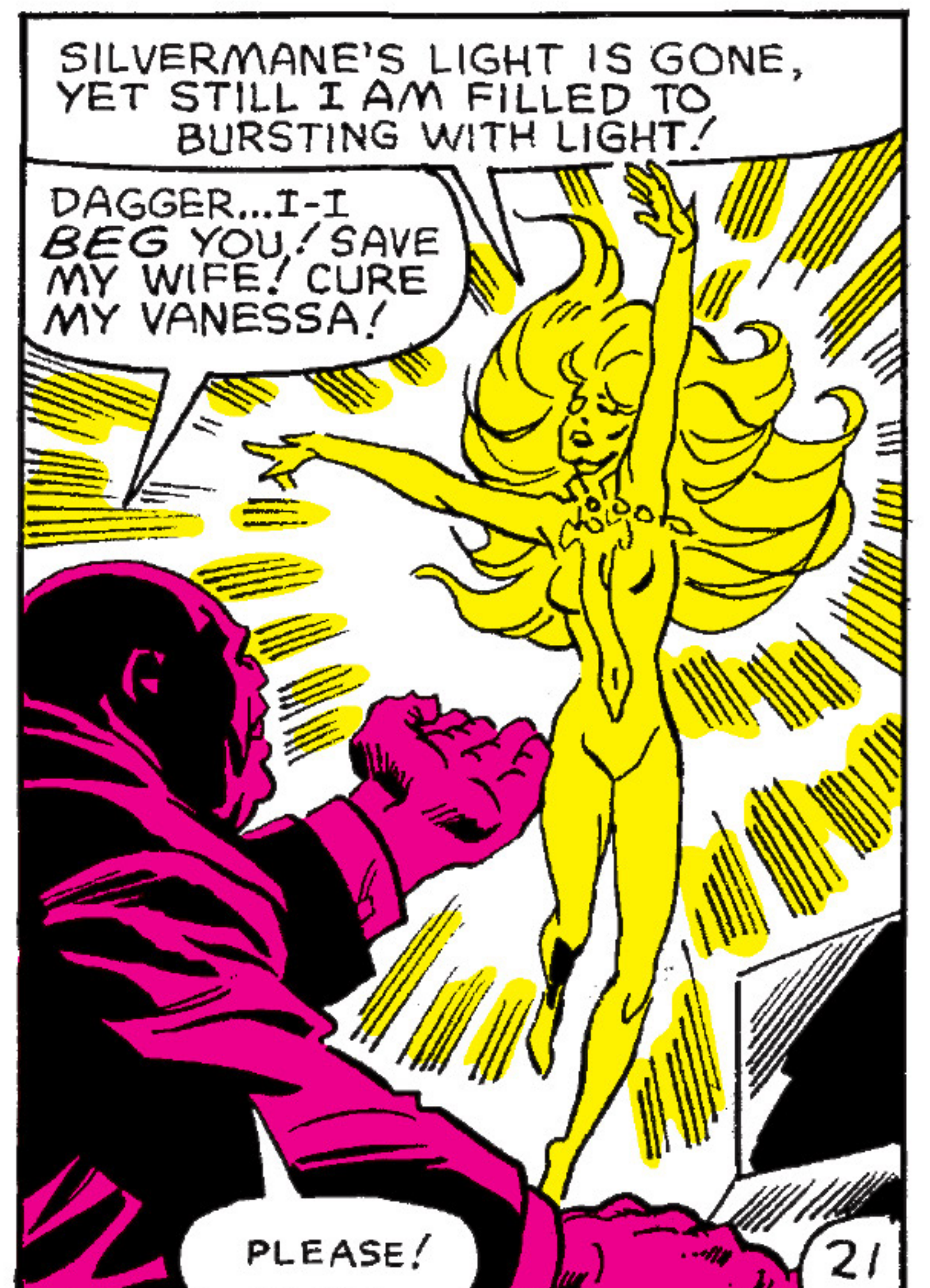
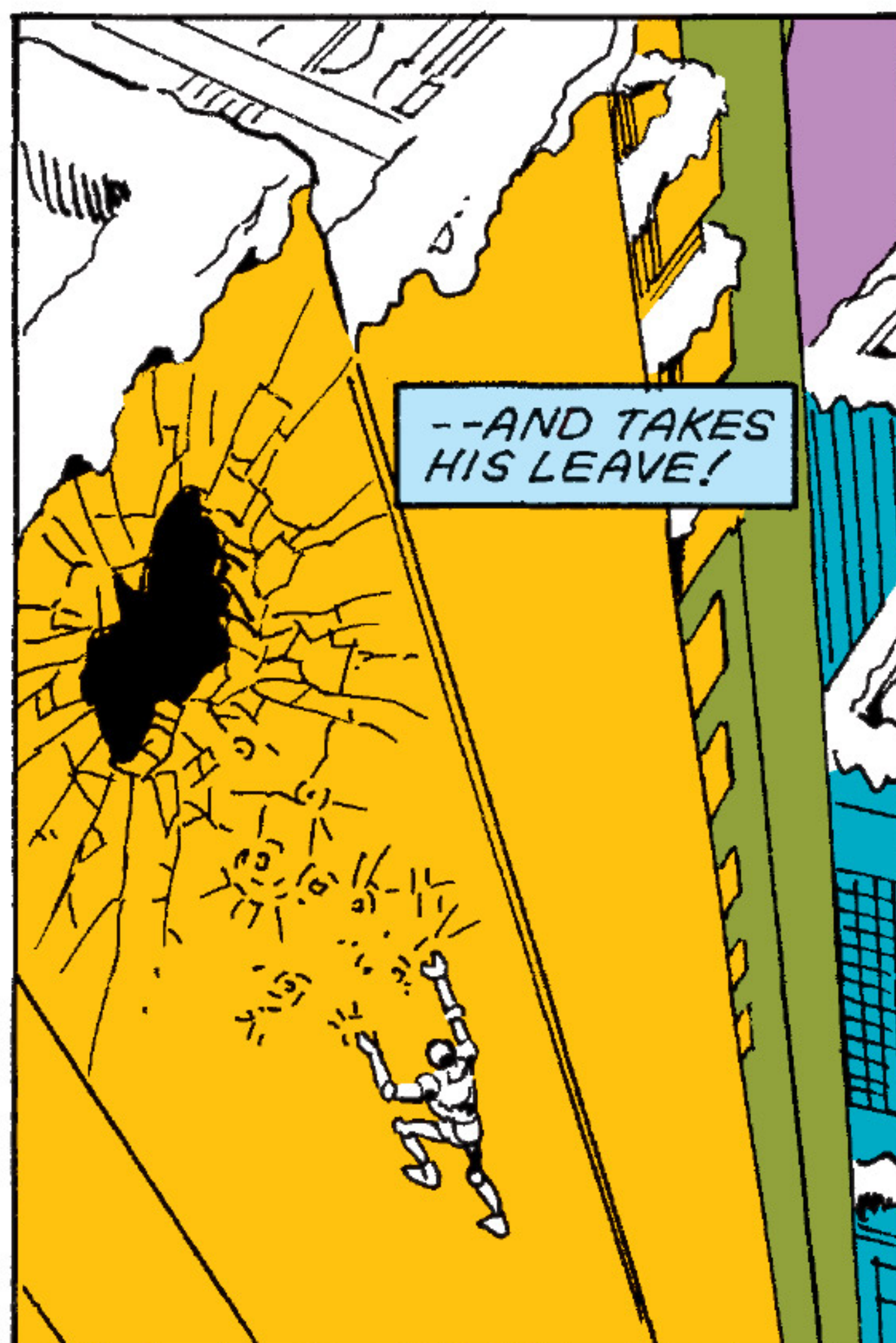
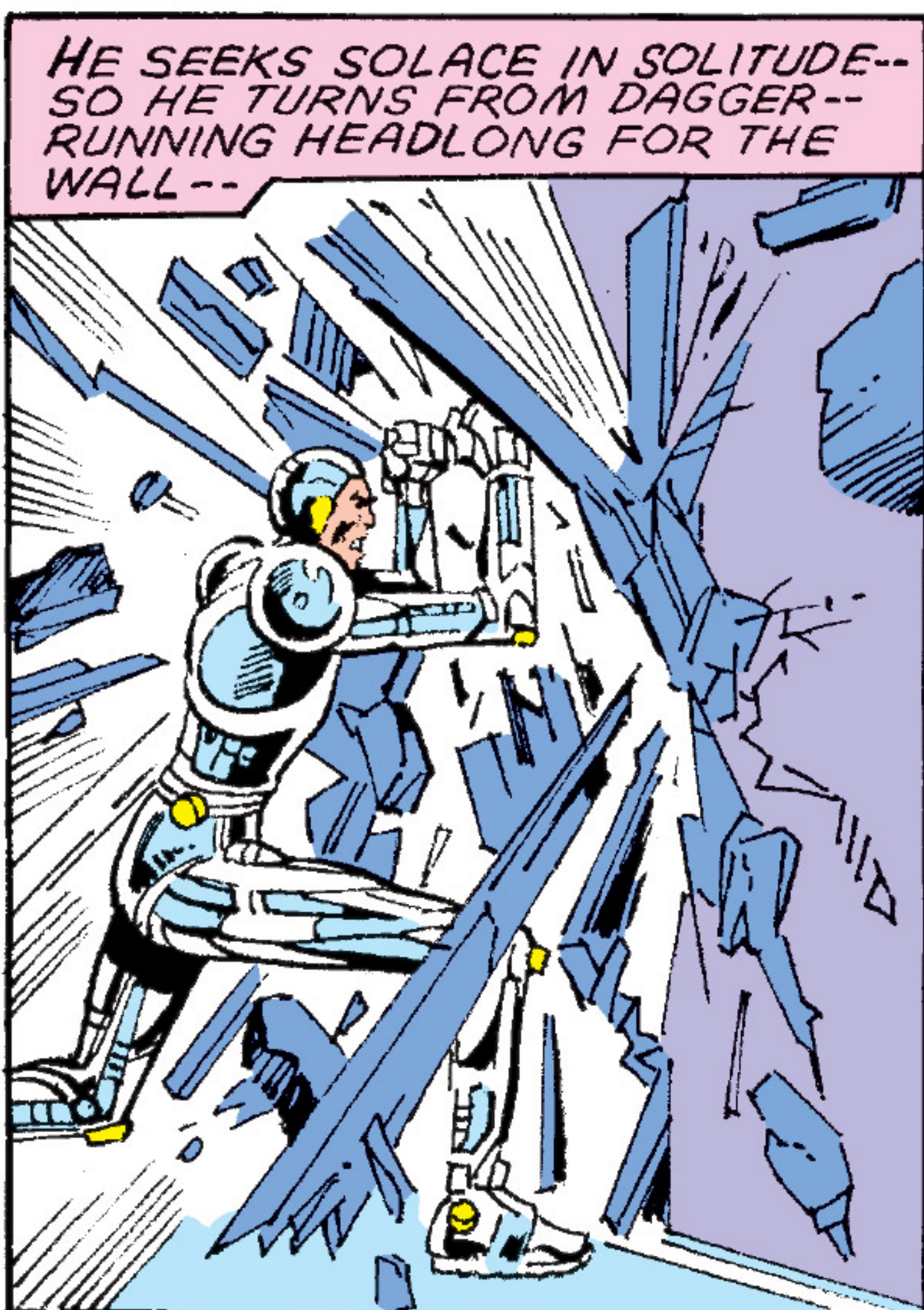
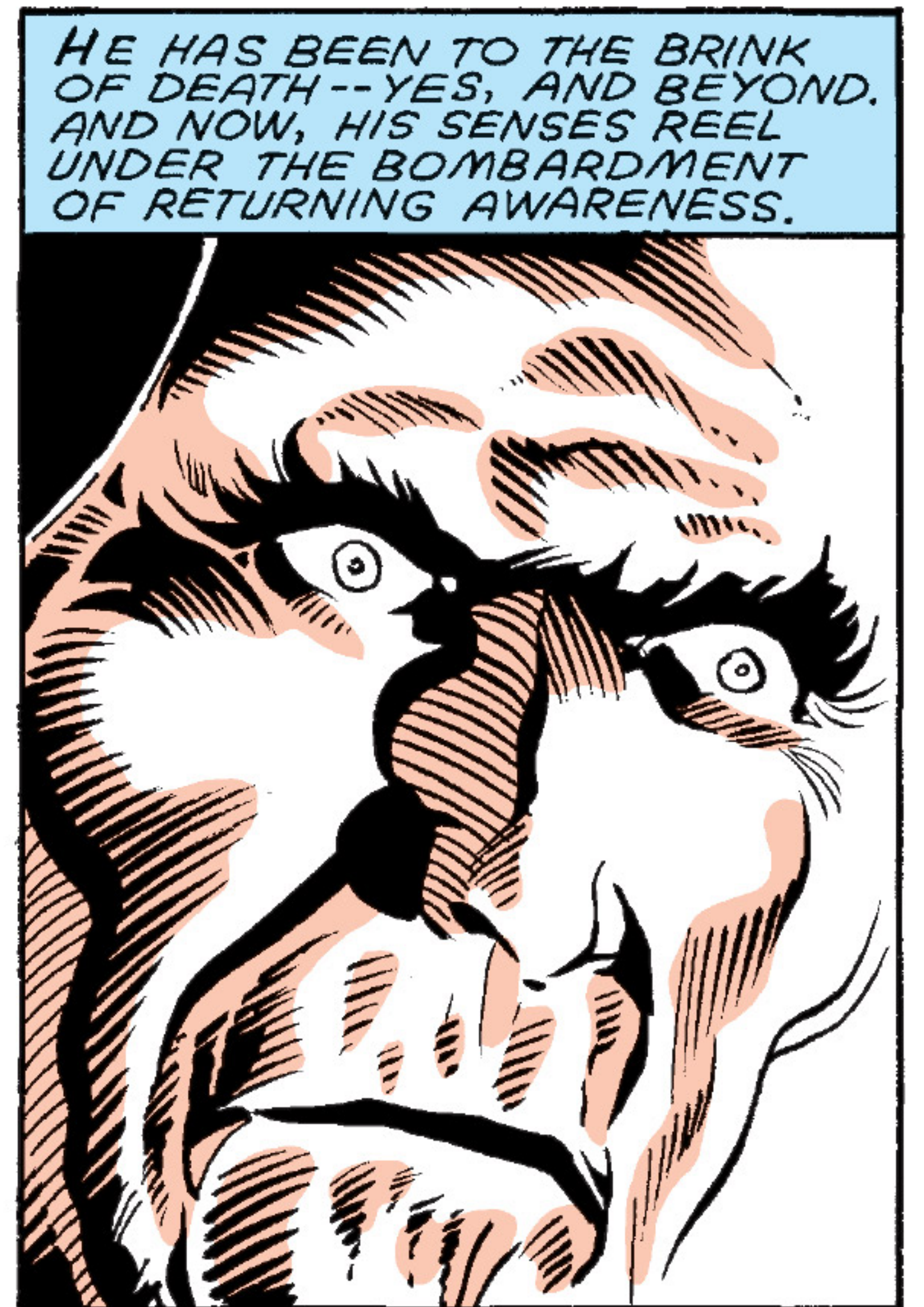
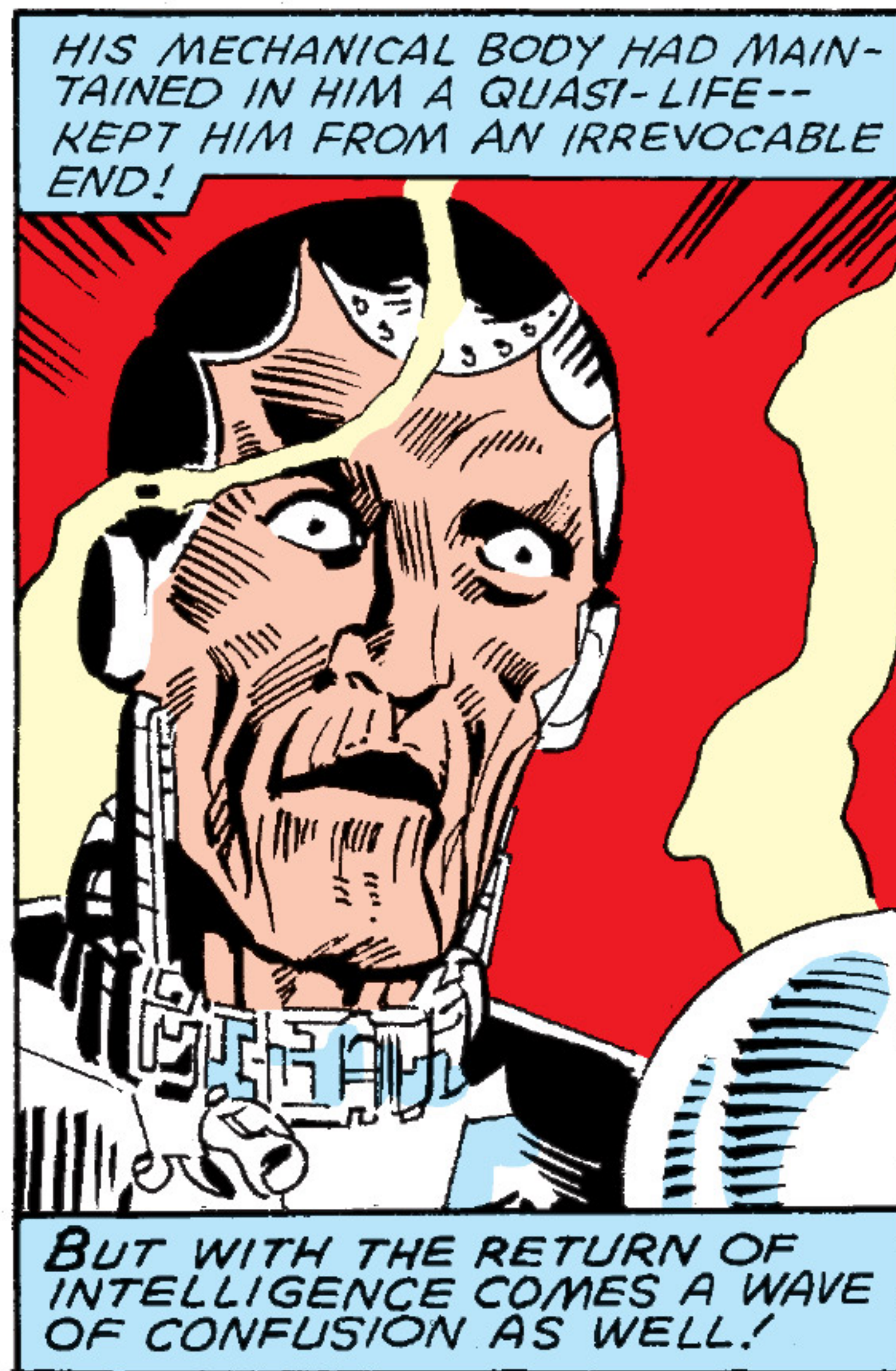
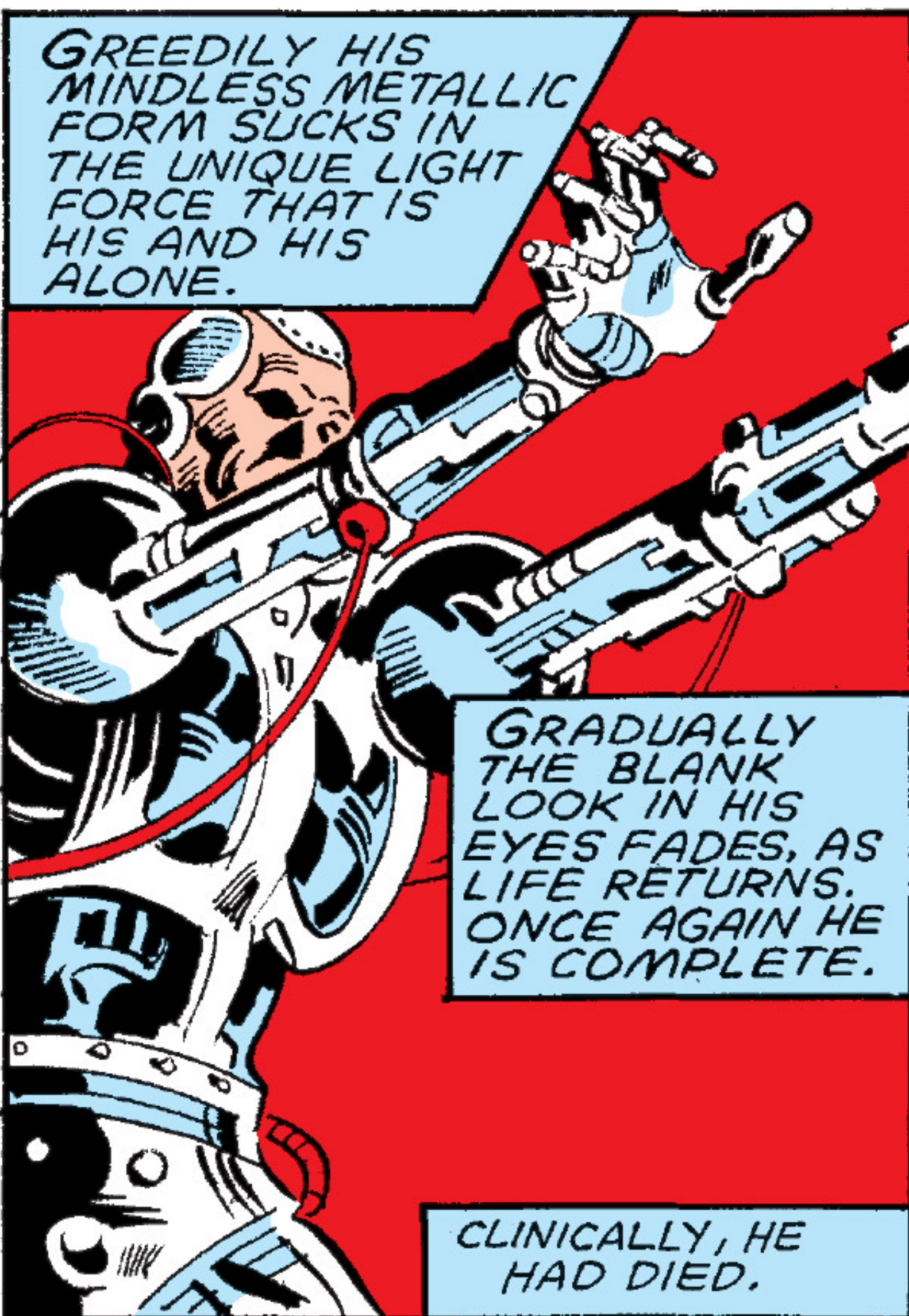
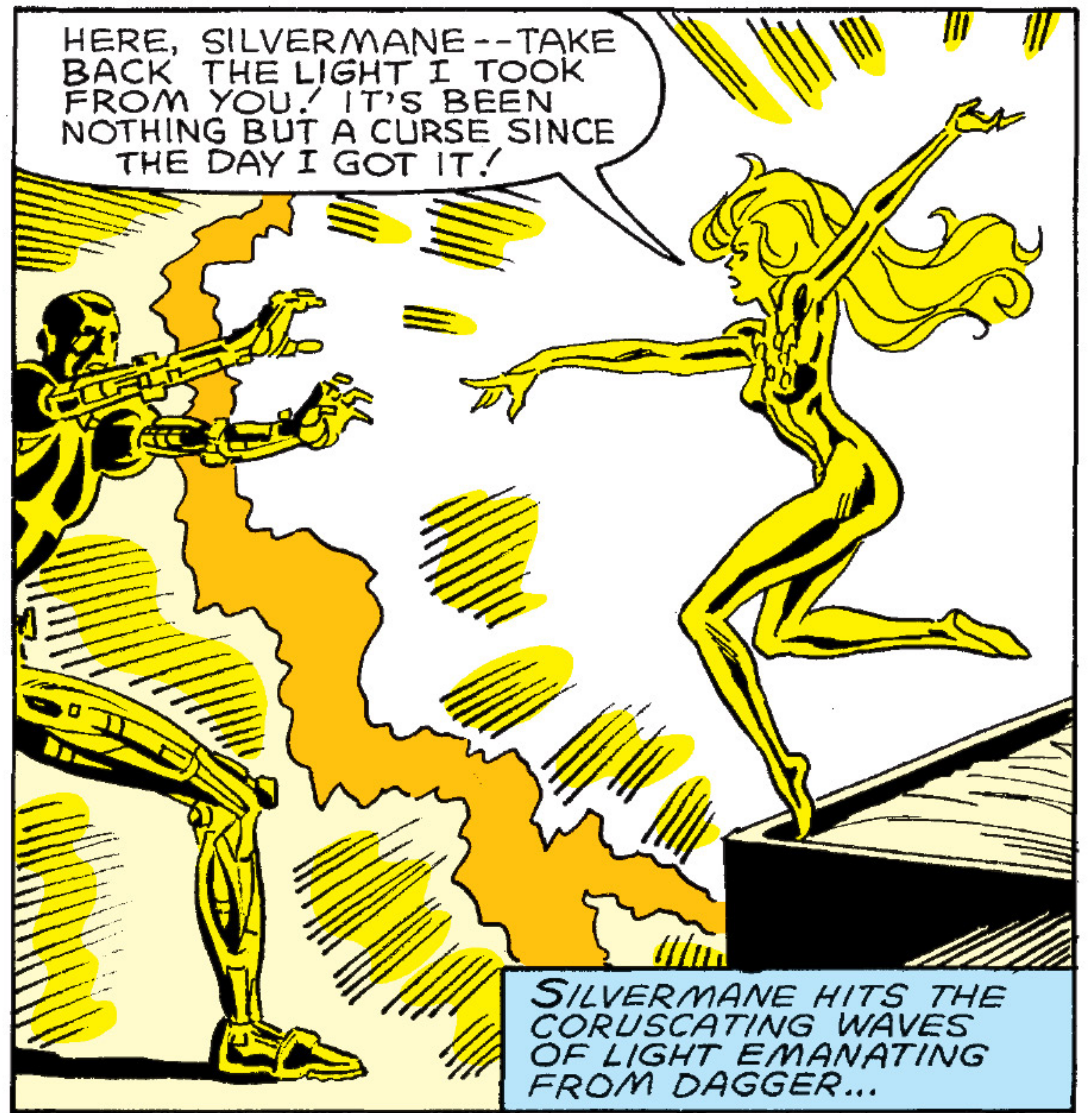
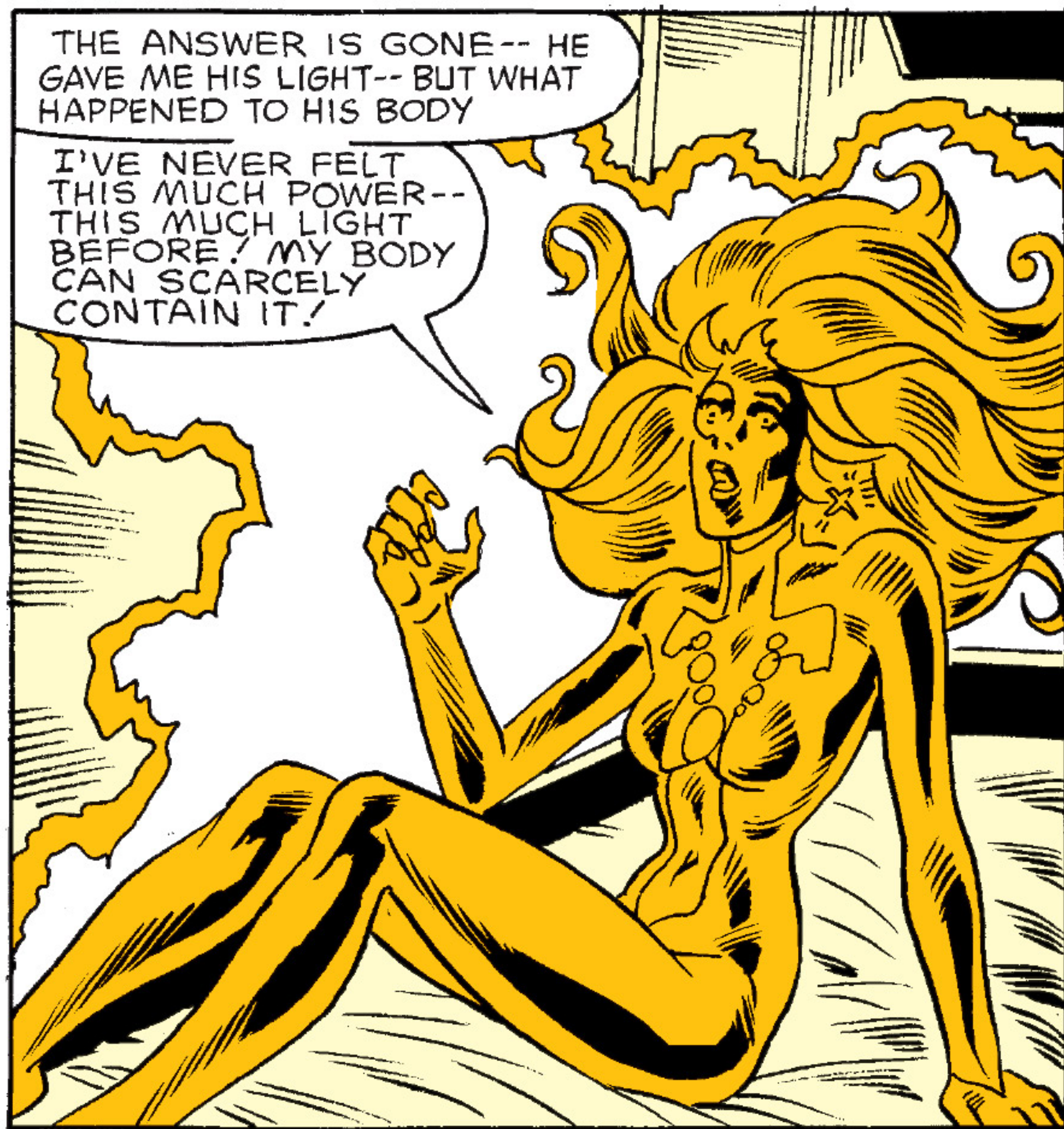


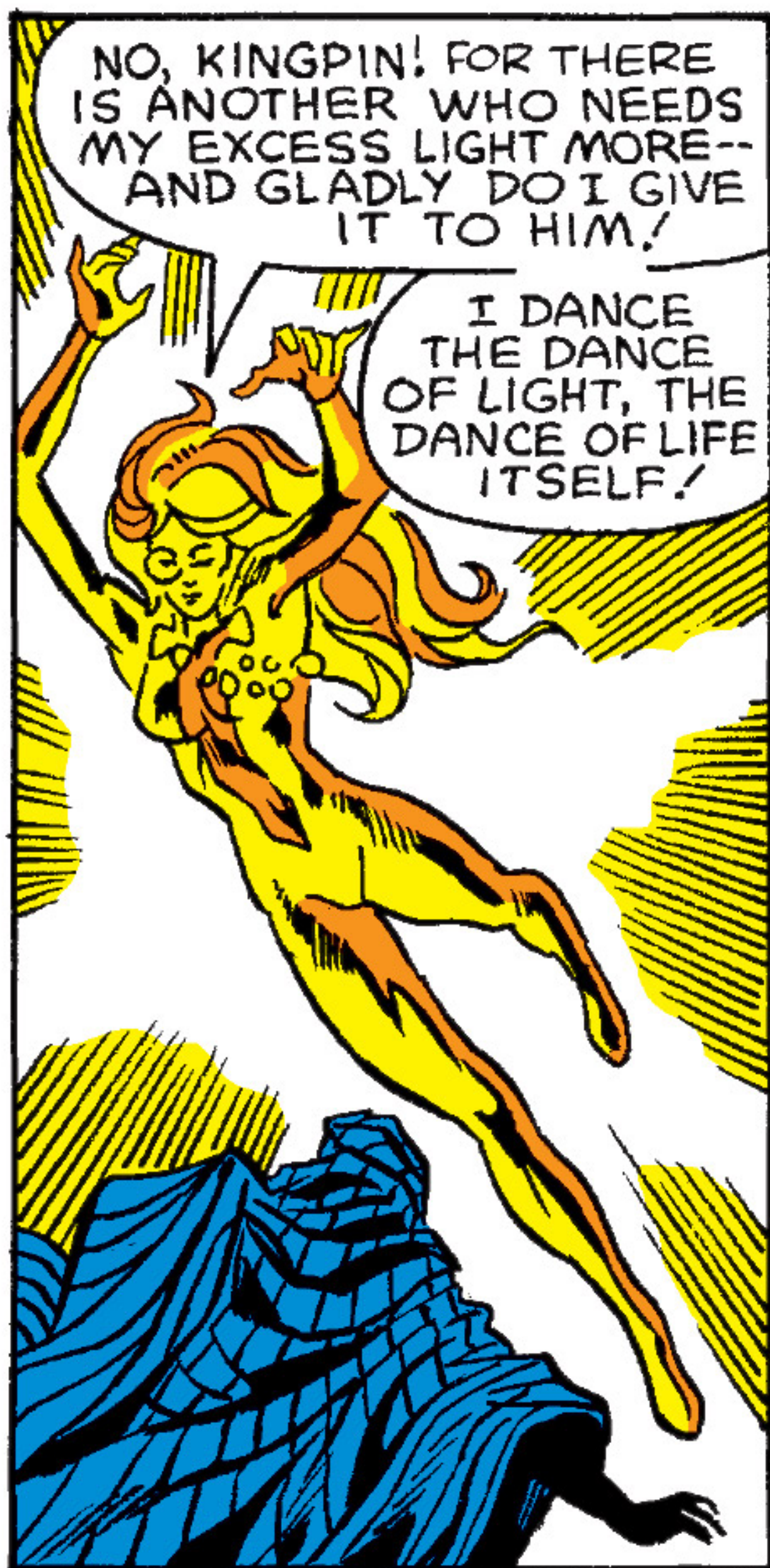






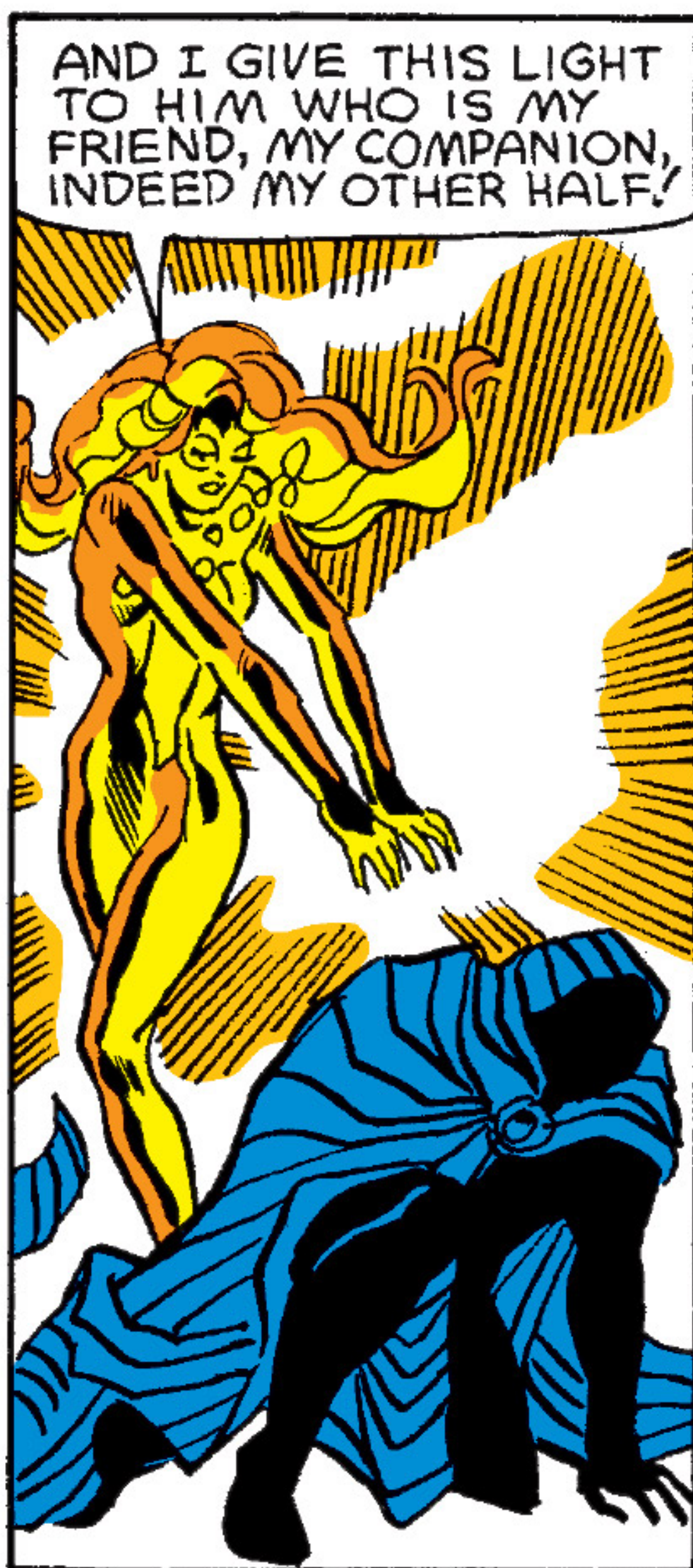






NO, KINGPIN! FOR THERE IS ANOTHER WHO NEEDS MY EXCESS LIGHT MORE-- AND GLADLY DO I GIVE IT TO HIM!

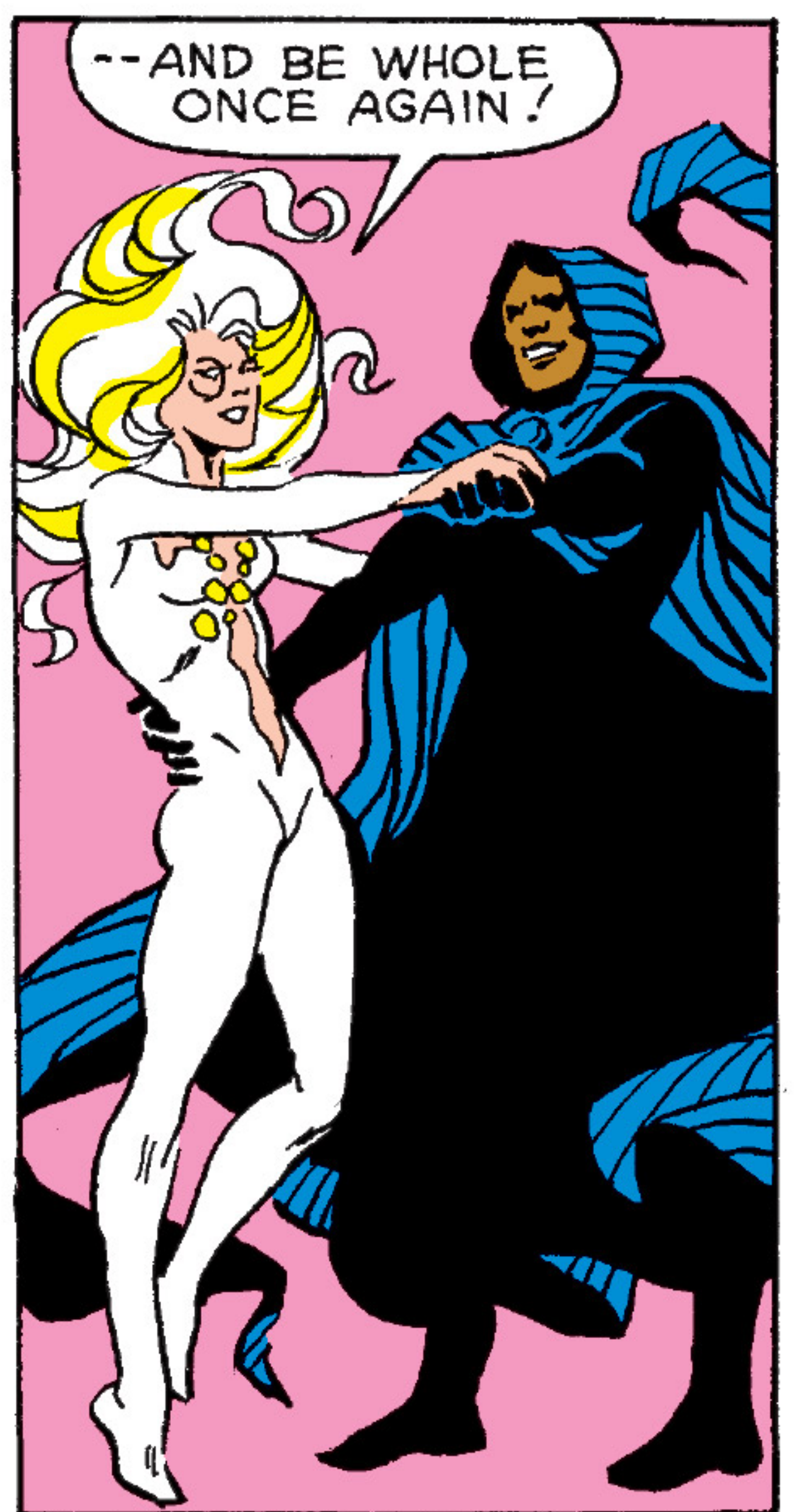
I DANCE THE DANCE OF LIGHT, THE DANCE OF LIFE ITSELF!



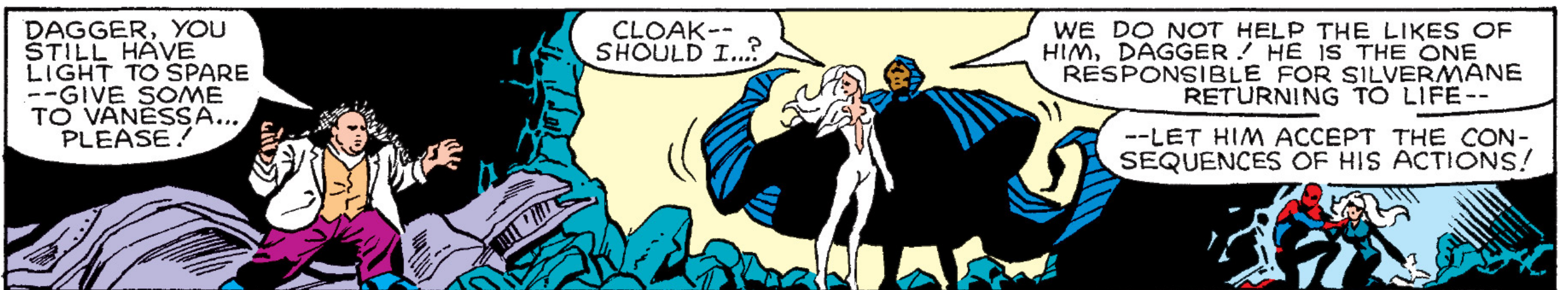
AND I GIVE THIS LIGHT TO HIM WHO IS MY FRIEND, MY COMPANION, INDEED MY OTHER HALF!



TAKE MY LIGHT, DEAR CLOAK--



--AND BE WHOLE ONCE AGAIN!



DAGGER, YOU STILL HAVE LIGHT TO SPARE --GIVE SOME TO VANESSA... PLEASE!

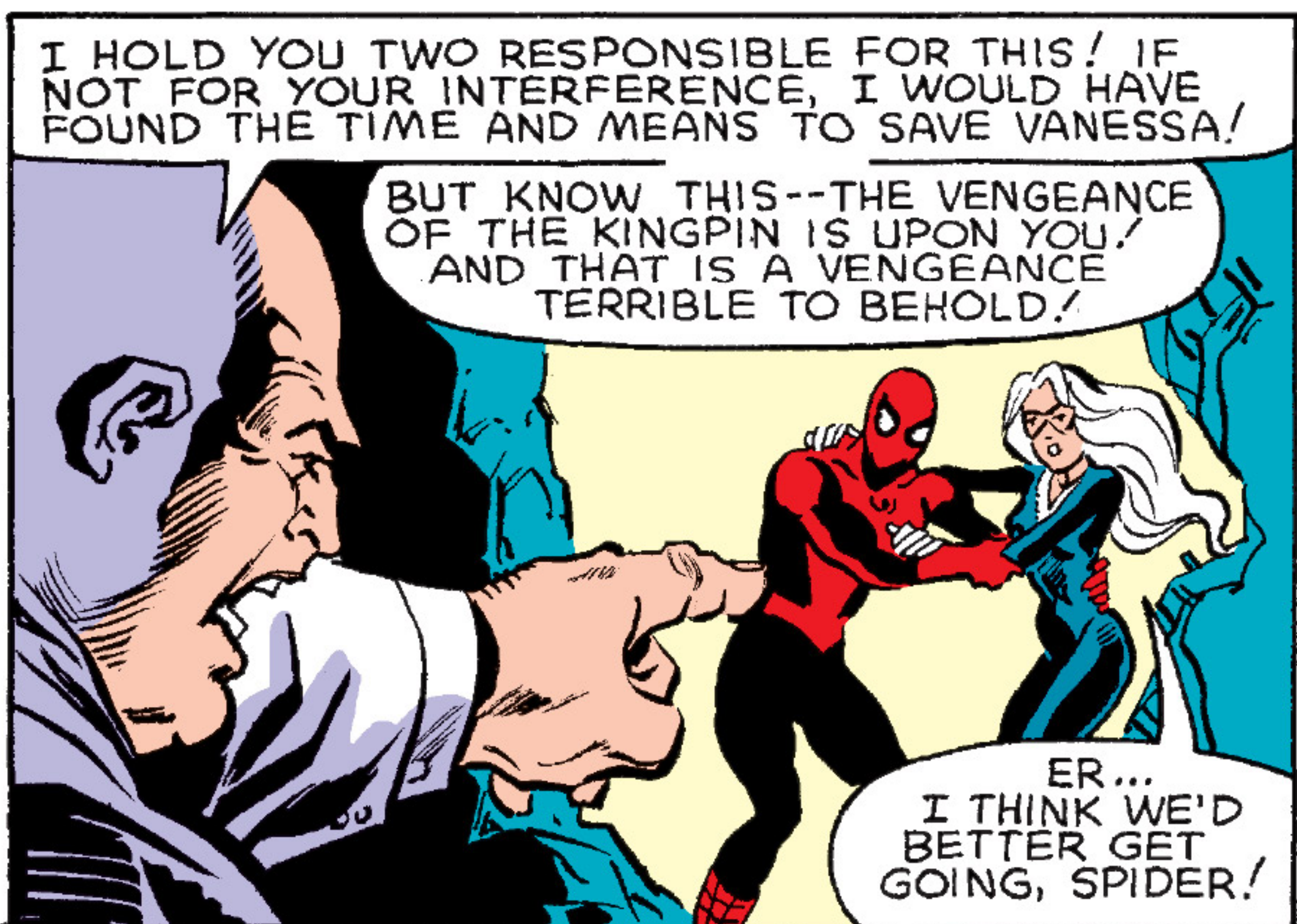
CLOAK-- SHOULD I...?

WE DO NOT HELP THE LIKES OF HIM, DAGGER! HE IS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR SILVERMANE RETURNING TO LIFE--

--LET HIM ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS!



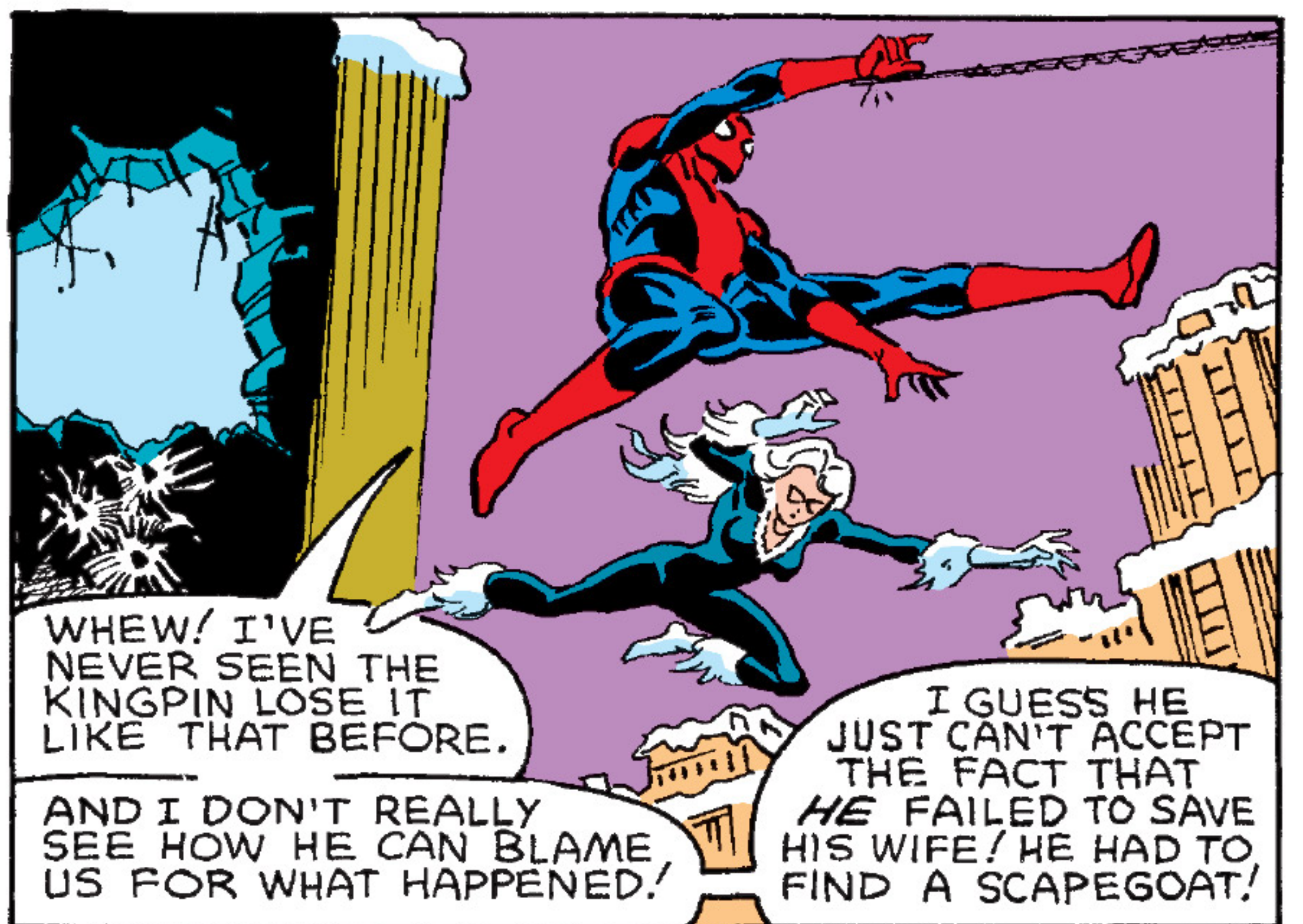
NO! THEY'RE GONE!



I HOLD YOU TWO RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS! IF NOT FOR YOUR INTERFERENCE, I WOULD HAVE FOUND THE TIME AND MEANS TO SAVE VANESSA!

BUT KNOW THIS--THE VENGEANCE OF THE KINGPIN IS UPON YOU! AND THAT IS A VENGEANCE TERRIBLE TO BEHOLD!

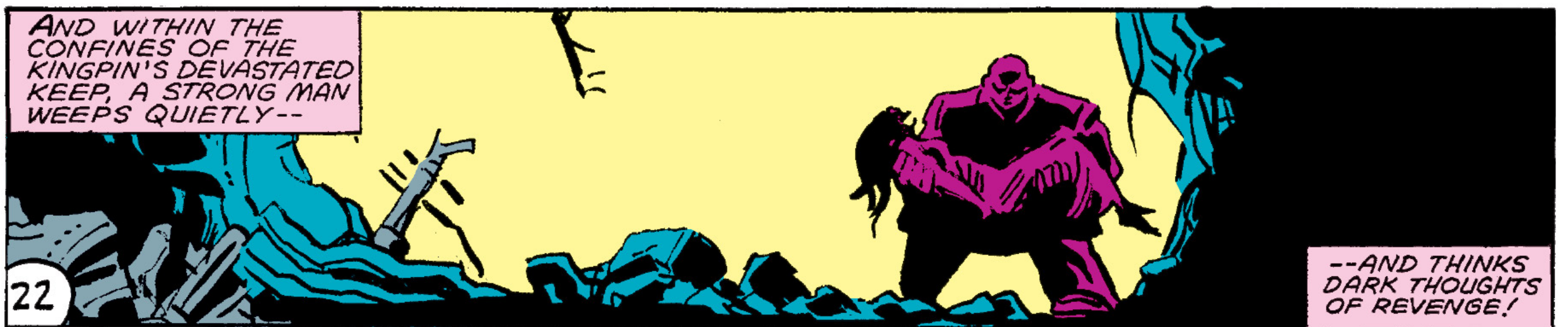
ER... I THINK WE'D BETTER GET GOING, SPIDER!



WHEW! I'VE NEVER SEEN THE KINGPIN LOSE IT LIKE THAT BEFORE.

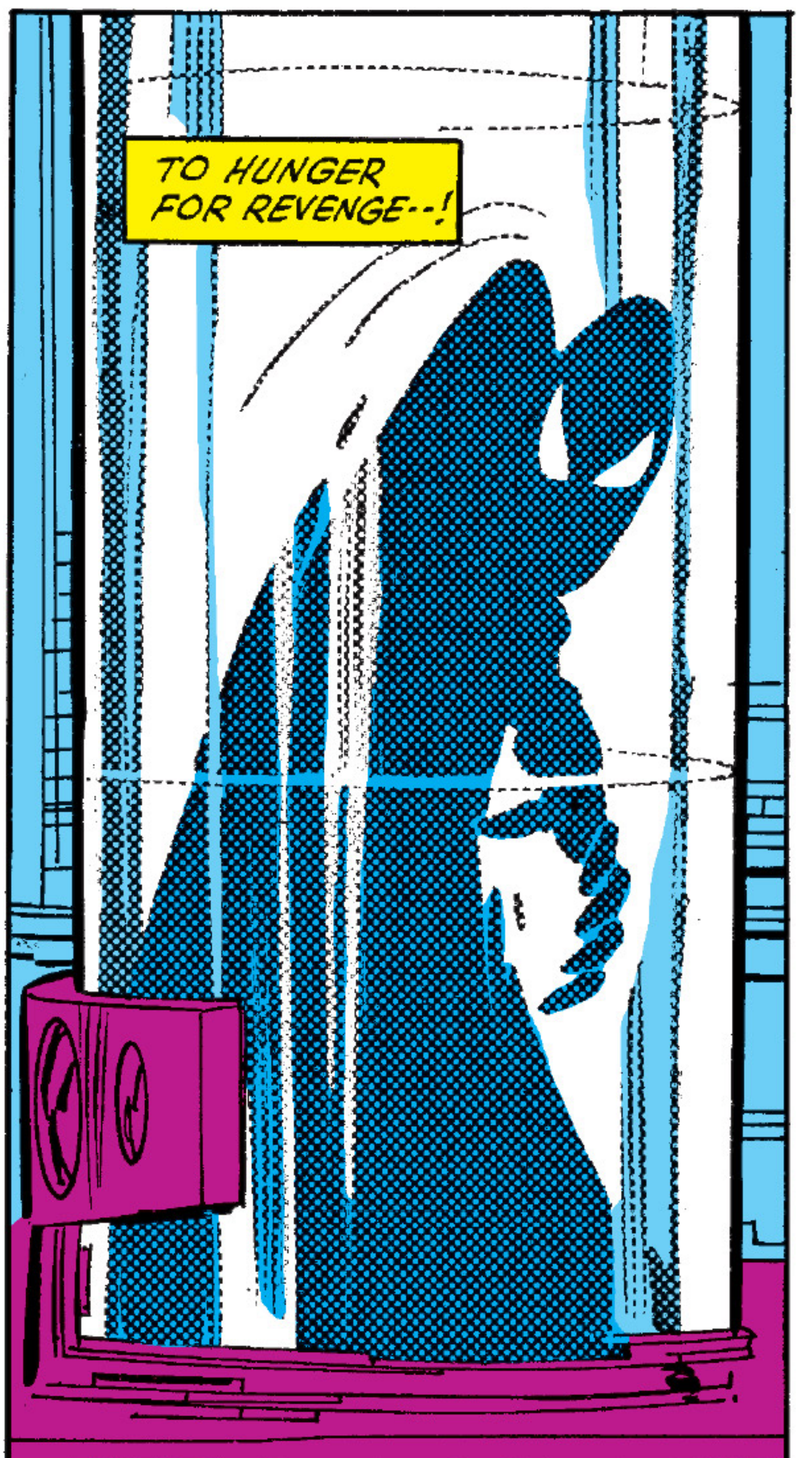
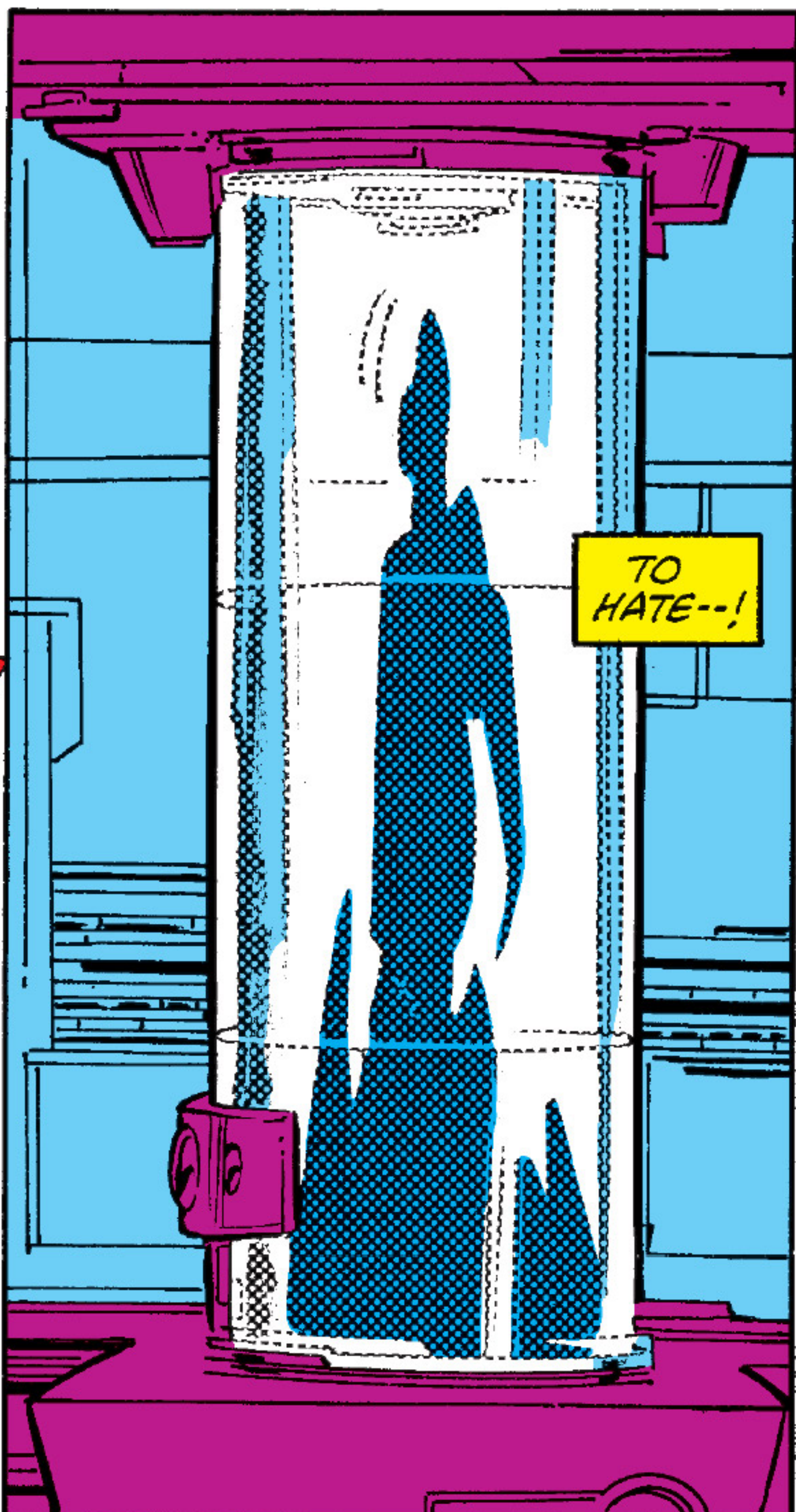
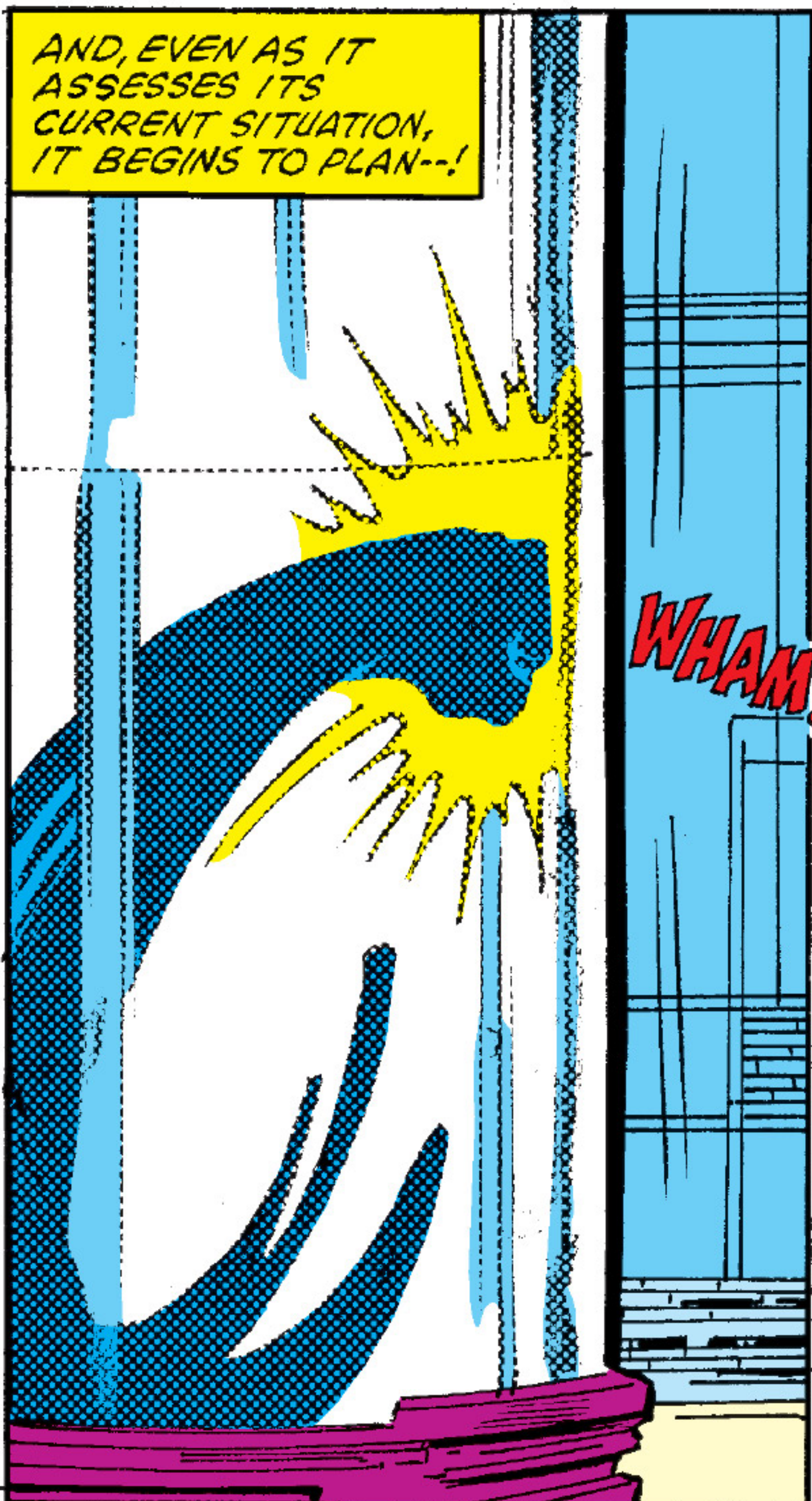
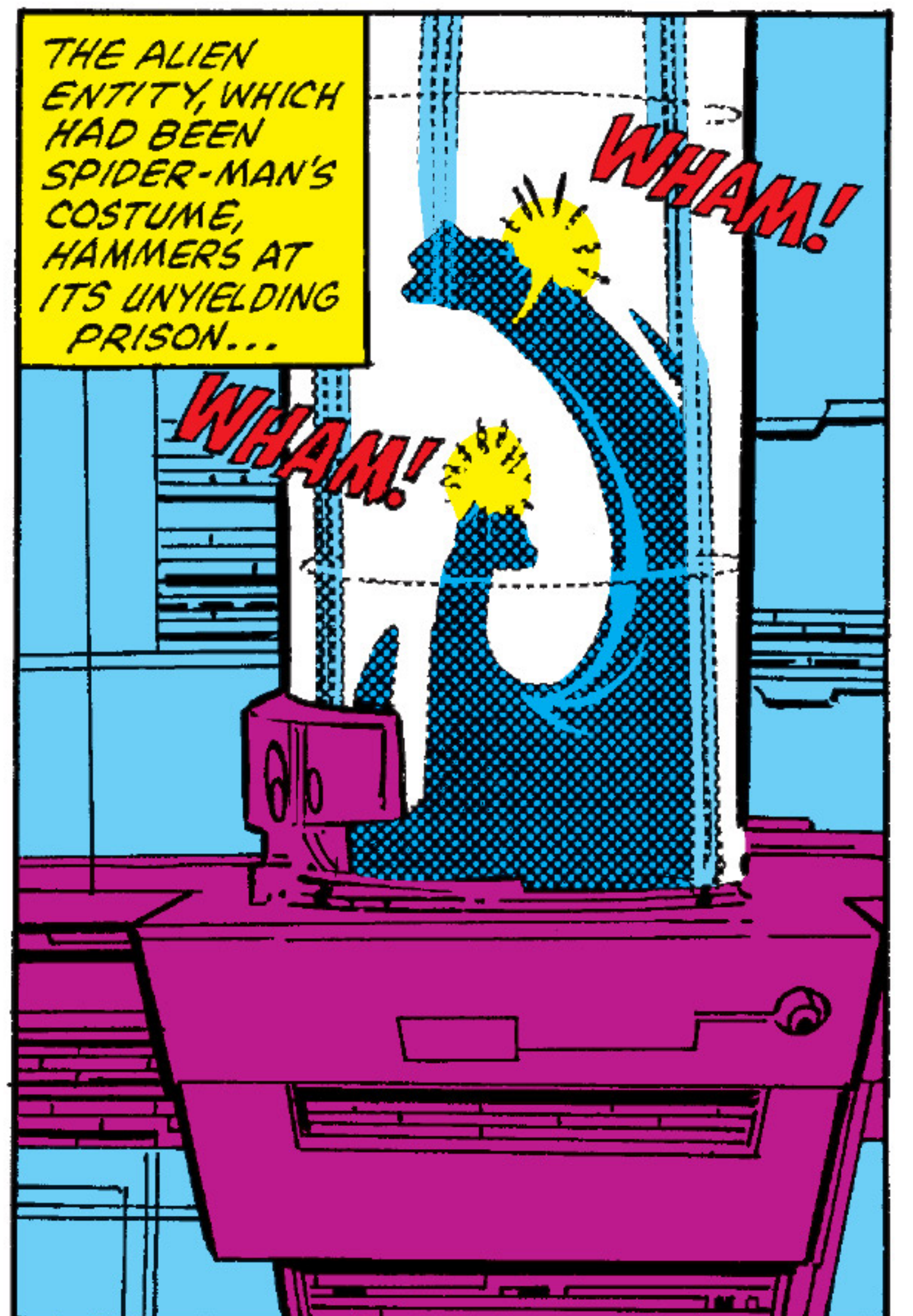
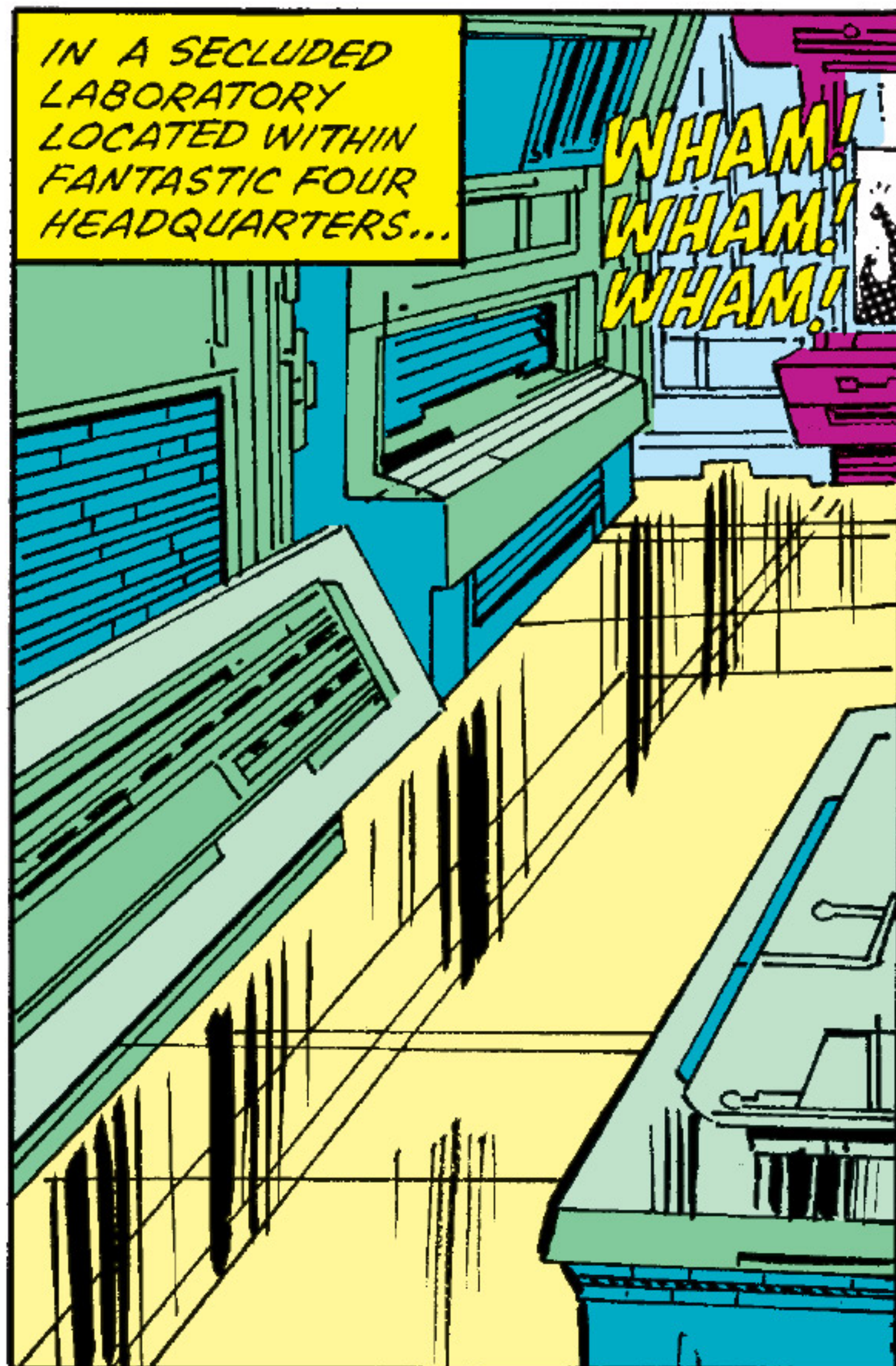
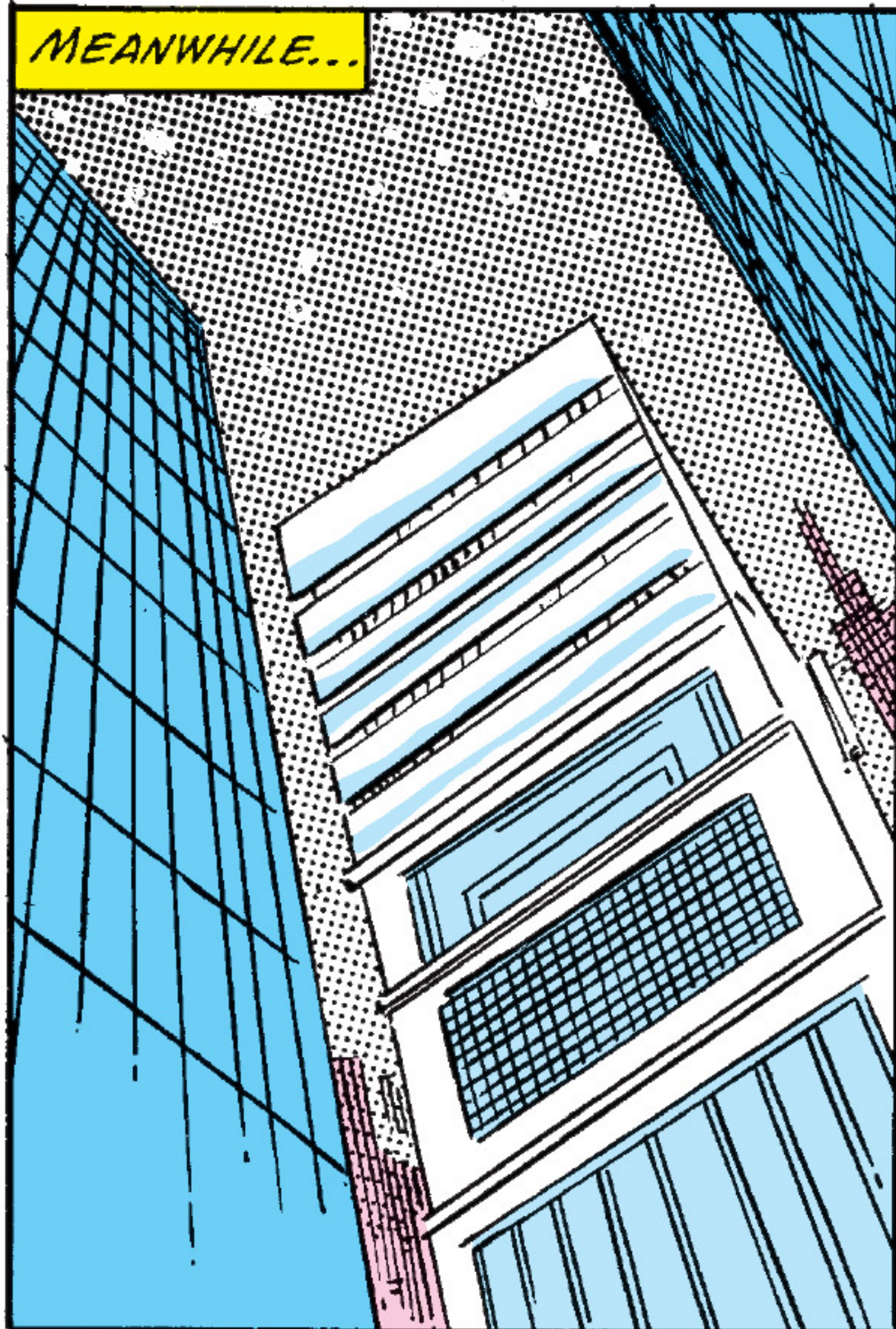
AND I DON'T REALLY SEE HOW HE CAN BLAME US FOR WHAT HAPPENED!

I GUESS HE JUST CAN'T ACCEPT THE FACT THAT HE FAILED TO SAVE HIS WIFE! HE HAD TO FIND A SCAPEGOAT!



AND WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE KINGPIN'S DEVASTATED KEEP, A STRONG MAN WEEPS QUIETLY--

--AND THINKS DARK THOUGHTS OF REVENGE!



NEXT ISSUE

THE MOST OFFBEAT STORY YET! THE MEDIUM IS THE MESS IN:

HERMIT - AGE!